

Institution: University College London (UCL)
Unit of Assessment: 27 – English Language and Literature
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>a) Context</p> <p>English has been taught at UCL since its foundation in 1826; UCL was the first English university to give degrees in English, and the first to give degrees to women. The Department of English Language and Literature has always been at the heart of Arts and Humanities (A&H) at UCL, and has a long tradition of high achievement, particularly in literary history and editorial and linguistic scholarship. Since the 1960s, with such notable figures as Frank Kermode, Karl Miller, Rosemary Ashton, and John Sutherland, it has been renowned for reaching audiences beyond the university, via literary journalism and broadcasting. In the later twentieth century, Department members included novelists A.S. Byatt and Dan Jacobson; the tradition of creative literary writing amongst staff has strengthened over this review period.</p> <p>UCL English is a compact unit, allowing for a collegial research culture in which academic colleagues, from Early Career Researchers (ECRs) to professors, know each other's work well. Established concentrations of expertise are spread across literature and language from the early medieval period to the present. Recent strategy has been to proactively increase, through new appointments, the diversity and range of the unit's research, which is now significantly more interdisciplinary. The Department has been able to consolidate and grow areas such as media and representation, digital humanities, medical humanities, literary bilingualism and creative writing. It has also nurtured research in the areas of race, comparative racialisation and post-colonial theory, alongside gender, sexuality and identity, thereby exploiting the size and intellectual diversity of UCL. The university's place at the heart of a multicultural city facilitates collaborations with wider communities, ranging from schools in the London Borough of Hackney to cultural institutions such as the BBC, British Film Institute (BFI), Globe Theatre, Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), and Wellcome Institute.</p> <p>b) Structure</p> <p>The UoA consists of 31 members of the UCL Department of English Language and Literature (30.5 FTE), and 2 research-active staff outside the Department (1.5 FTE): Gilroy, based in UCL's Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS), and Adams, an independent researcher in UCL's Centre for Editing Lives and Letters (CELL). Gilroy's research commitments to literary and cultural studies, and Adams's to editing and archival work, ensure close links with the Department. Interdisciplinarity has been extended with the recent joint appointment of Moul, shared with the Department of Greek & Latin. Four of the Department's permanent academic staff are English Language specialists. The Department includes The Survey of English Usage, a pioneering centre of language research. Its databases of written and spoken English and ground-breaking exploration software have established it as a world-leading centre for corpus linguistics.</p> <p>c) Research & impact strategy</p> <p>The unit's distinctiveness lies in our sustained commitment to the virtues of close reading and traditional historicist literary scholarship, while remaining at the forefront of an evolving discipline. We have long-established strengths in literary history, textual editing and corpus linguistics. The recent attraction of scholars with additional expertise in cultural and film studies and creative practice have richly augmented and reconfigured these core strengths. Exemplifying UCL's aim of empowering curiosity-driven investigations by individual researchers,</p>

we support major editorial projects (often, as in the cases of **Dart**, **Davis**, **Horne**, extending beyond a single REF cycle), and the production of substantial monographs. We also embed an awareness of the importance of dialogue between creative and critical practice through the employment of scholars at the forefront of modern cultural production, whose creative outputs are shaped by their scholarly work: publishing poetry (**Ford**, **Langley**), novels (**Sperling**), and nonfiction films (**Beaumont**).

Our research activities cluster around one centre of linguistics research, The Survey of English Usage, and three strands of literature research – *Editions*, *Intercultural Exchanges*, and *The City*. The literature strands are descriptive rather than prescriptive: our ambition is to allow our researchers a high degree of freedom to pursue their evolving intellectual interests. The content of the strands therefore continuously evolves with the development of our research.

The Survey of English Usage (SEU)

The **SEU**, founded by Randolph Quirk in 1959, was the first research centre in Europe to carry out research in corpus linguistics. The **SEU** gathers, describes and analyses samples of naturally-occurring language and its research focuses on three areas: 1) using authentic spoken and written data from the **SEU**'s two parsed corpora, *The Diachronic Corpus of Present-Day Spoken English (DCPSE)* and *The British Component of the International Corpus of English (ICE-GB)*, to study present-day English grammar and changes in English grammar over recent decades (**Aarts**); 2) corpus linguistic methodology, specifically corpus exploration and statistics (**Wallis**), and the use of large corpora to study human interactions in work settings (**De Felice**); 3) **Allan**'s work on historical and cognitive semantics and lexicology, using electronic databases such as the *Historical Thesaurus of the Oxford English Dictionary*.

A focal aspect of the **SEU**'s work (evidenced by the ICS) is its link with education policy. The *Englicious* project has had measurable impact on the teaching of English grammar in schools now required by the National Curriculum. From its 'Academic Writing in English' apps to its courses for teachers and Summer Schools, the **SEU** has brought a key tranche of the department's work to wider audiences. Having attracted large-scale external funding, the **SEU** will continue to pursue its impactful work into the next REF period, developing its current Nuffield-funded research with UCL's Institute of Education into the grammatical development of young children's writing.

Editions: The material and historical text

Editions has showcased our archival and textual editing prowess, focusing our core disciplinary strength: the study of the literary text, in its material, cultural, and historical specificity. Our work in editing and on the book as a material object includes a huge range of activities. These run from new research on medieval manuscript culture, demonstrated by **North**'s editing of Old English *Andreas* and **Irvine**'s Humboldt Foundation award for collaboration on *An Electronic Corpus of Old English Homilies*, to early modern manuscript studies exemplified by **Moul**'s pioneering survey of neo-Latin poetry in English manuscript miscellanies. We undertake major long-term editing projects, such as those on Addison (OUP, **Davis**), Lamb (OUP, **Dart**), and James (CUP, **Horne**), to sustain and contribute to the reading of classic works. Recent appointments extend this strength into the modern period: **Sperling**'s work on Geoffrey Hill and the *OED* bridges linguistic and literary research; **Duncan**'s collection on paratexts, *Book Parts* (OUP), exemplifies our interest in book history. Through pursuing this research strand, we have helped define the field of modernist studies, via **Ford**'s work on the New York School poets, and his pioneering editions of John Ashbery and translations of Raymond Roussel; **Jordan**'s editing of experimentalist B.S. Johnson, and her book *Late Modernism and the Avant-Garde British Novel* (OUP); and **Duncan**'s monograph on the French Oulipo group of writers and artists, *The Oulipo and Modern Thought* (OUP). All these range beyond the traditional confines of high modernism to understand modernism's avant-garde engagements.

We are committed to literary-historical criticism, tracing intellectual, scientific, philosophical, and theological debates. Exemplary outputs include **Roberts's** *Edward Gibbon and the Shape of History* (OUP) exploring Gibbon's historical thinking. We recently appointed **Ossa-Richardson**, whose interests include science, philosophy, and the reception history of classical thought and literature. His *History of Ambiguity* (Princeton) ranges from antiquity to modernity. An established strength is the study of classicism, with **Davis** and **Stamatakis** working on major projects engaging with the legacy of antiquity. Research into the history of science is represented by **Yao**, who researches intersections between literature and the history of race science, anthropology, and eugenics, **Langley**, whose two monographs on Shakespeare are field-leading interventions in the medical humanities, situating literary texts in the period's scientific context and **Hackett**, who is researching the Elizabethan mind. We have produced notable work on literature and religion, including **Shell's** writings on literature and Christianity from the Reformation onwards; **Horbury's** monograph on the early modern Bible (*Prodigality in Early Modern Drama*, Boydell & Brewer); and **Freedman's** work on how belief and scepticism shaped national and poetic self-images (*William Blake and the Myth of America*, OUP).

Intercultural Exchanges

Intercultural Exchanges has developed our expertise in Anglophone literature's global interactions. Much research involves translation or studies of translation (**Baron, Davis, Duncan, Ford, Irvine**), or the analysis of literature as a site of global networks of communication (**Atkinson, Baron, Freedman, Hackett, Horne, North, Shell, Stamatakis, Stevens, Weis, Yao**). **Horne's** work on the transatlantic Henry James, **Baron's** exploration of the European roots of intertextuality, and **Atkinson's** research into the cultural impact of French novels on Victorian readers, exemplify this focus. Recent appointments extend the scope of these research activities: **Duncan** (2019), an expert on twentieth-century Anglo-French literary relations, and neo-Latinist **Moul** (2019), an authority on the literary bilingualism of early modernity.

Intercultural Exchanges has more recently expanded into *Intercultural Encounters*, inspiring new work and strategic appointments in the fields of critical race studies and postcolonialism. This has encouraged growth in colonial and postcolonial literature, Black studies, and the intersection of race and gender. We are developing a collaborative relationship with UCL's Sarah Parker Remond Centre for the Study of Race and Racialisation (SPRC), with **Gilroy** as founding Director (2019) and **Yao** as an affiliated staff member. We are creating a bridge between our new activities and **Gilroy's** field-defining research in Black British studies, exemplified by **Yao's** Decolonial Forum and our new series of talks and reading groups entitled 'Race, Power, and Poetics' (RPP). The RPP features BAME academics from the UK and North America working on issues of race across all periods of English literary studies.

The City: London and beyond

Focusing on the metropolis as a centre of literary and cultural activity, *The City* gathers staff working on interdisciplinary urban studies, on walking, and on the literary heritage of London. The strand has encouraged engagement with cultural practitioners and reinforced our cross-period commitment to creating new audiences for literary scholarship. While much of the research is London-centred, such as **Ford's** work on Thomas Hardy, it also encompasses research relating to urban environments beyond London, for example **Roberts's** work on responses to Roman ruins. One of the many outcomes that has taken shape from this strand is a forum for Londoners interested in psychogeography and urban studies through guided walks (**Dart**: Hazlitt and Lamb; **Weis**: Shakespeare; **Beaumont**: 'Nightwalking'). As part of this project, we have collaborated with the Museum of London, the UCL Institute for Transport, and the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, while developing close ties with writers, including Iain Sinclair and Will Self.

Beaumont is Co-Director of UCL's Urban Lab, a cross-disciplinary centre promoting creative and collaborative inquiry into urgent urban problems, and leads one of its priority areas, *Urban Nights*, bringing together researchers with an interest in the distinct ecology of nocturnal cities in

order to explore, at the intersection between history and comparative geography, the ways in which, after nightfall, we use and abuse the urban environment. Among other outcomes, this has led to Beaumont's film project 'Distracted Walking', showcased at UCL's *Festival of Culture* and elsewhere.

Open Access (OA)

We are committed to OA as a fundamental principle of Humanities research and have gone beyond the requirements of REF2021, depositing 122 research outputs (published between 2014 and 2020) in UCL Discovery, UCL's institutional repository. 100% of articles and conference papers accepted from 1 April 2016 (not only those submitted as REF2 outputs) have been deposited in UCL Discovery, are gold OA, or qualify for exceptions. During the assessment period our researchers have consistently chosen destinations for their research that are fully OA, to better make our research accessible worldwide. We collaborate with UCL Press (which is entirely OA) and will strive to intensify our connections with it; currently, **Mullan** sits on its board, and the Press publishes the *Sylvia Townsend Warner Journal*, edited by **Swaab**.

Impact strategy

We aim to maximise the public benefit of our research through three main approaches: furthering academic scholarship; enhancing cultural contribution; engaging in public discourse. The UoA has a reputation for outreach and cultivation of a broad readership, academic and non-academic. **Ford's** *London Review of Books (LRB)* podcasts on poetry, **Yao's** broadcasts on BBC's 'Rethink' on racist cultural perceptions, and **Mullan's** *Guardian* Book Club events and podcasts, are three prime examples of the way in which we use our research to create pathways to impact. We also reach a greater public by diversifying our research, as in the case of the interdisciplinary conference 'Trans Studies, Trans Lives' (**Yao** and **Horbury**), which drew a large non-academic audience.

Interactions with external partners further broaden the reach of our impact by fostering creative synergies. **Mullan's** work on Austen (see ICS) has led to collaborations with the Royal Mint and with playwright Laura Wade; **Langley's** work has culminated in a new staging of Milton at the Globe; and **Ford's** role in the discovery of lost manuscripts of the poet Joan Murray resulted in new *New York Review of Books* editions. **Horne's** series of interviews with Martin Scorsese in *Sight & Sound* emanate from his long-standing relationship with the director, while his *Tales from a Master's Notebook* (2018) – featuring stories from authors including Colm Tóibín, Amit Chaudhuri, and Tessa Hadley – exemplifies research contributing directly to cultural creativity (see ICS). In this period **Bruzzi** participated in public events at BFI Southbank: a lecture and a roundtable discussion on documentary re-enactment, both to capacity audiences. **Hackett** disseminated current research into the Elizabethan mind via YouTube.

Future strategy

We will continue to pursue our diverse research specialisms, individually and collaboratively, during the next REF cycle and beyond, fostering a culture of intellectual freedom, diversity, and curiosity. Affording staff the time, intellectual space and funding to produce outputs that reflect international standards of excellence will remain a core component of our research strategy. Our guiding principle remains the belief that high levels of intellectual freedom contribute significantly to scholarly quality. To enable this, we have identified three priorities: a) exploiting institutional and external support to develop our research, both nationally and globally; b) strengthening equalities, especially post-Covid; c) using our London location to focus research and external engagement.

a) In line with UCL's institutional research strategy, we will traverse boundaries to increase engagement by, for example, pursuing awards from UCL's Global Engagement Office in order to establish partnerships with international HEIs, and make our work more collaboratively international. This will include inviting overseas scholars, utilising existing international

collaborations and research networks (including those with Toronto, Chicago, the Sorbonne, and Göttingen), and using the resources of the IAS to host collaborative colloquia. We will also use Faculty Public Engagement funds, Beacon Bursary awards, and the Dean's Strategic Fund to embed impact and public engagement.

b) As articulated in UCL's institutional environment statement, we place inclusivity at the heart of research and will strengthen our commitment to equalities, including an equity- and inclusion-based response to how the pandemic has impacted individuals in our community. We wish especially to link these concerns to future impact plans and to enable staff to produce impact from their research and cultivate case studies truly representative of our diversity. This priority will be reinforced by a new appointment in Colonial and Postcolonial Literatures in 2021. The appointee will join us in working towards an international colloquium on the theme of *Intercultural Encounters*, to be held in Spring 2022.

c) We intend to amplify our focus on the diversity of London, by cementing our identity as a centre for the study of the literary history of Bloomsbury, bolstering our position at the forefront of urban literary studies and walking studies, and continuing to involve London libraries, archives, and museums in our research and impact agenda. Building on the **SEU's** short courses and apps and our *Poets Poets* initiative, which brings discussions of creative practice into schools in disadvantaged areas and incorporated workshops that made extensive use of the holdings of the Petrie Museum and the UCL Art Museum, we aim to broaden our outreach activities in order to bring other aspects of our research to multiple communities.

2. People

(a) Staffing strategy and staff development

The UoA consists of 32 members of staff, 30 of whom belong to the English Department (an 18% increase from REF 2014), including one fixed-term postdoctoral fellow. The UoA's standing has enabled it to attract leading scholars at a senior level and to ensure that staff turnover is relatively low. Recent appointments include **Bruzzi** (Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, appointed in 2017), and **Gilroy**. While in the reporting period, no permanent academic chose to leave except through retirement (**Weis, Rennie**), additional QR funding and some expansion of student numbers have allowed us to appoint six new Lecturers: **Langley, Sperling, Yao, De Felice, Duncan, Ossa-Richardson**. These ECR appointments have been culturally transformative and we will build on their impact with the forthcoming lecturer in postcolonial literatures.

Staff development and appraisal

Supporting our staff's development is key to the Department's success. Our practices have developed within UCL's overarching strategies and policies (REF5a) but we have also designed frameworks that optimise the environment for undertaking literary research and scholarship. All new appointees, including any on short-term contracts, are assigned a mentor, who holds termly formal mentor/mentee meetings in order to support strategic development, for example of publication proposals and grant applications. Staff are encouraged to make the most of UCL's comprehensive training and development programme, and to attend events in each academic year. All probationary staff and ECRs take part in the Academic Development Programmes arranged by UCL Arena (UCL's professional development pathway for teaching). Probationary staff are spared significant administrative tasks until after the end of their probation (usually three years) and have a reduced teaching load. In line with UCL policy, all staff are appraised annually. The appraisal process provides a formal structure for staff to explore career ambitions and develop opportunities, while further support is provided by the HoD and Research Committee who coordinate peer reviews of draft publications and grant applications (see 3(b) below). Both Faculty and Department foster a culture in which researchers feel their development is valued.

Sabbatical leave

One term's leave is available after every three years of service, in line with institutional policy. This has continued through Covid-19, allowing staff to continue to feel supported in their research. In the period under review, a total of 51 terms of sabbatical leave were taken. Research leave outcomes are monitored by end-of-leave progress reports submitted to the HoD and through the appraisal system.

Career progression and promotions

The UoA's staff benefit from our institutional policy of rewarding outstanding performance via salary increments and promotions (reviewed annually by the Department's Promotions Committee, consisting of all professorial staff). Discussion of promotion is a core part of the appraisal process. Staff put forward for promotion are allotted a member of the Promotions Committee as advisor, and those that are not are made aware that they can also submit their case directly through the Dean. During this assessment period, four colleagues have been promoted to Professor (**Beaumont, Dart, Shell, Davis**), seven to Associate Professor (**Allan, Atkinson, Baron, Freedman, Jordan, Langley, Stamatakis**), and one to Principal Research Fellow (**Wallis**). In addition, **Mullan** was appointed to the Lord Northcliffe Chair of Modern English Literature.

ECRs

Training the next generation of scholars remains a longstanding strategic priority and we make explicit use of externally-funded fellowships to support the development of early-career researchers (ECRs) through fixed-term Teaching Fellowships (TF) (8 during this REF period). Specific support for TFs includes a personal research allowance (£500 p.a. from 2020), access to the UoA's Chambers Fund for publication costs, and moderate teaching loads. Postdoctoral researchers (PDRs) make much-valued contributions to our research environment. Since 2014 we have attracted two British Academy Postdoctoral Fellows (**Horbury, McCluskey**) and three Leverhulme Early Career Fellows (**Howe, Whipday, Carver**). As part of their career development, PDRs normally take on some, ideally research-led, teaching. All ECRs are closely integrated into courses and departmental culture; they organise research-led activities supported by the department which, in turn, enrich the wider departmental research culture.

Partnerships between ECRs and permanent staff have invigorated our research environment: **Hackett** and **Whipday** collaborated on the staging of Samuel Daniel's *The Tragedie of Cleopatra* and an article published in *Early Theatre* (2015) outlining the research findings derived from these performances; **Howe** (winner of the T.S. Eliot Prize in 2015) contributed to *Poets Poets*; **Horbury** collaborated with **Yao** on the UCL symposium 'Trans Studies, Trans Lives' (2019) and co-edited *Transcribed: An Anthology of Trans Writing* (2020); and **McCluskey** and Amara Thornton (UCL Archaeology) collaborated on 'Filming Antiquity: Moving Images of 1930s Excavations' (2016), a screening and talk at the Society of Antiquaries of London.

(b) Research studentsRecruitment

Nurturing research students is central to our mission. Our PhD programme is competitive; from around 80 applications per year, we normally take 12-14, a size which fosters community within and across specialisms. Since 2013-14, 34 students have received AHRC London Arts and Humanities Partnership (LAHP) doctoral scholarships and six Wolfson scholarships. Others won UCL Graduate Research Scholarships and an Overseas Research Scholarship, a LAHP Collaborative Doctoral Award, and a Wellcome Scholarship. We successfully competed for two Windsor Fellowships (reserved for BAME applicants), in 2019 and 2020. Our current total enrolment is 54 PhD students, of whom 12 (22%) are BAME, including three Black students, fulfilling our strategy to increase diversity. Our initiatives include pipeline actions directed at UG and PG students, such as **Yao's** coordination of the faculty induction programme, 'The Matter of Black Lives,' focused on racism and specifically anti-Blackness as a systemic force.

Monitoring and support

The Graduate Tutor has overall responsibility for the pastoral and academic care of PhD students. All students have principal and secondary supervisors (cross-departmental for interdisciplinary projects), with at least 12 supervisory meetings per year. All supervisors have completed Arena accredited training (HEA). Each incoming student has a peer mentor working in a relevant field. The UCL online research log is the student's record of progress through the PhD programme. At the end of the first and third years of their programme, students submit substantial dossiers of work for appraisal by their supervisory team and Higher Degrees Sub-Committee respectively, and during the third year are required to defend their work in mock vivas. Second-year students are subject to rigorous UCL upgrade procedures. The Staff/Graduate Student Consultative Committee meets once a term, where PGR representatives report on issues and feed back to staff from the student community. A Postgraduate Study Room, with computer facilities, is available for the sole use of PhD students.

Research training programme

Our research training programme begins with mandatory first-year seminars covering topics including thesis planning, online research methods, and using specialist archives. Sessions for second- and third-year students include: giving conference papers, writing journal article proposals, preparing material for publication, job applications, impact training, and academic and non-academic careers; the latter include input from former students. Our students benefit from the training opportunities offered at UCL by the Doctoral School, and beyond UCL by LAHP and the Institute of English Studies (IES). We also direct students to training offered by the British Library (BL), National Archives, and Warburg Institute. The UCL-Yale Collaborative scheme supports a term or longer at Yale University: 13 of our PhD students have been funded to go to Yale in the reporting period (£58,999 awarded in bursaries). We have in turn supervised two Yale students visiting us on that scheme. Our students have a proven track record in successful applications for funding from the AHRC International Placement and Leverhulme Trust Study Abroad Scholarship schemes, enabling them to pursue research at the Huntington Library, Library of Congress, Harry Ransom Center (University of Texas at Austin), Smithsonian Institute, and J.F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Berlin (£52,355 awarded in 2014-20). We provide funds (up to £350 p.a. per student) to enable attendance at academic conferences. Language support for PhD students whose first language is not English is available from UCL's Centre for Languages and International Education, and our students have benefited from courses for PhD students whose research requires knowledge of a particular foreign language (e.g. **Fraaije** took courses in advanced French and German to enable him to pursue sources for medieval magical verse).

Career development

We view teaching as a vital part of doctoral students' development as researchers. Second-year PhD students may apply to become Postgraduate Teaching Assistants (PGTAs) for the year. They receive Arena-accredited training from the Departmental and Graduate Tutors, and teach one-to-one tutorials as well as seminars linked to their research specialisms. We encourage our PGTAs to attend further Arena teacher-training sessions; a number of them have been awarded advanced HEA certificates. PhD students also design and deliver UCL Summer Schools and participate in outreach activities.

In a challenging market, our PhD students have achieved notable success in securing academic posts. Permanent academic appointments since 2014 include **Bintley** (Birkbeck), **Bowers** and **Ingleby** (QMUL), **Cran**, **Curran**, **Herford**, and **Wilkinson** (Birmingham), **Dini** (Roehampton), **Mehl** (Sheffield), **Hawkins** (Southampton), **Lacey** (Winchester), **Starza Smith** (KCL), **Smail** (Wellington, New Zealand), **Su** (Shanghai), **Thomson** (Düsseldorf), **Toda** (Réunion), and **Whipday** (Newcastle). Those gaining temporary Lectureships include **Bentick** (QMUL), **Cotton** (Cardiff), **Edwards** (Oxford), and **Robinson** (New College of the Humanities, London). Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships have been awarded to **Anderson**, **Klimt**, **Potts**, **Powell**, and **Whipday**. Oxford and Cambridge JRFs were awarded to **Bowers**, **Curran**, and **Wilkinson**. A PDR post was awarded to **Burns** (Oxford). Many UCL PhD theses develop into significant publications, including monographs with scholarly presses. Notable examples include Rona

Cran, *Collage in Twentieth-Century Art, Literature, and Culture* (Ashgate, 2014); Daniel Starza Smith, *John Donne and the Conway Papers* (OUP, 2014); Oliver Herford, *Henry James's Style of Retrospect* (OUP, 2016); Louise Curran, *Samuel Richardson and the Art of Letter-Writing* (CUP, 2016); Will Bowers, *The Italian Idea: Anglo-Italian Radical Literary Culture 1815-1823* (CUP, 2019).

Graduate research culture

The vitality of the postgraduate research culture is a measure of the intellectual health of the Department. The most important forum is our fortnightly Research Seminar, regularly attracting around 40 participants (more since the move online during the pandemic). Second-year PhD students are invited to present a 50-minute paper; on other occasions, papers are given by staff members or guest speakers. In 2020-21 this seminar programme has included a themed strand on 'Race, Power, and Poetics', with international speakers including Ruben Espinosa (University of Texas at El Paso). The **SEU** runs a seminar series featuring four distinguished guest speakers each year. Third-year PhD students may apply to give our annual Celia Phillips Memorial Lecture. Each summer, our PhD students organize a conference combining papers by graduate students from UCL and elsewhere with keynote lectures by leading academics, including Sophie Read (Cambridge). Many of the papers are published in our online graduate student journal, *Moveable Type*. Other one-off conferences organised by PhD students have included 'Rebel? Prophet? Relic? Perspectives on George Orwell (2019)', and 'Laughing Gas: Science and Satire in Nineteenth-century Medical Culture' (2019). Research-related performances of Elizabethan plays, 'Jack Drum's Entertainment' in Oxford and London (2016) and 'Tom Tyler and His Wife' (2017) were staged by our PhD students at UCL. Lively reading groups on the following topics are run by PhD students: Contemporary Poetry, Early Modern English, Experimental Fiction, and Long Poems.

(c) Equality and diversity

We have always sought to foster an inclusive and open culture, but recognise there is more we can do to increase the diversity of the Department and recently have made significant strides towards greater inclusivity. The Women's Forum was set up in 2017 as a result of informal conversations between female staff members; it is open to all and meets termly to discuss issues of concern to women and, where needed, to submit proposals for discussion at the Department's Staff Meeting. The English Department was an early signatory to the Student Union's Zero Tolerance of Sexual Harassment Campaign.

Over the last decade, there have been 17 appointments to permanent positions: 11 female (**Shell, Baron, Freedman, Atkinson, Jordan, Jones, Roberts, De Felice, Bruzzi, Yao, Moul** (joint appointment with U0A19)) and six male (**Langley, Stamatakis, Sperling, Duncan, Ossa-Richardson, Gilroy**). Our gender balance has thus shifted since REF2014, when the male staff comprised over 65%; our current balance is near 50-50. All staff on appointment panels undertake EDI training, and panels have at least two (of five) female members. The career development and wellbeing of women in the Department is further supported by the work of the Athena Swan Leads, and will submit a Bronze application in 2021, supporting UCL's bid to retain its Silver award. Flexible working arrangements exist for parents. UCL's Equality Leave policy allows academics who have returned from maternity leave an extra sabbatical term to make up for lost research time. In 2014-20, six periods of maternity leave were granted.

In 2020 we established a Diversity and Inclusion Committee whose function is to oversee matters pertaining to EDI, make recommendations to the Board of Studies, and provide a forum in which concerns can be raised. The Inclusion Lead (**Yao**) chairs this Committee, which includes the Athena Swan Leads (**Freedman** and **Stevens**) as well as PhD, postgraduate, and undergraduate representatives. **Yao** also sits on the Faculty's EDI committee, the UCL Race Equality Steering Group and the Eugenics Inquiry Response Group, where she is specifically liaising with the Introductory Programme about the design and launch of a dedicated component critiquing eugenics for all incoming students.

The appointment of a permanent BAME academic member of staff, **Yao** (2018), and the Faculty appointment of **Gilroy** (2019) are part of our strategy to further expand into critical race studies, and postcolonial studies by building on the Lectureship in Colonial and Postcolonial Literature in 2021. This impetus towards a greater focus on diversity and equality is evidenced in our Decolonial Forum, established in 2020 by **Yao** in collaboration with ECRs and PGRs, which among other initiatives hosts a 'Settler Colonialisms & Indigeneity' workshop series.

The Department supports staff returning to work following ill health and flexible working. Provision includes transitional return (with reduced teaching load) and regular assessments of occupational health needs. Tailored provision is made for staff with disabilities, including standing desks for colleagues with chronic back problems, and funding for equipment and lip-reading classes for a colleague with severe hearing loss. The latter participates in Enable, a support network for disabled staff.

In tune with the faculty's support of UCL's LGBTQ+ communities, **Horbury** convenes the Department's Queer Reading Group and ran, with qUCL, the public engagement project Writing Trans Lives, a series of workshops (UCL Culture Beacon Bursary), which led to their co-edited collection of creative work *Transcribed: An Anthology of Trans Writing* (POLARI Print, 2020). **Roberts** won a grant of £1,500 ('Liberating the Curriculum' 2016) to create a Moodle hub 'Early Modern Marginalities', and took part in a panel session for the wider UCL and UoL community. PhD student **Wiltshire** secured funding for *Steps to Progress*, a 29-panel visual installation of literary texts in the entranceway to UCL's main library to showcase UCL's diversity as part of its 2019 *Festival of Culture*, which remained *in situ* until Easter 2020.

In preparation for REF2021, we paid due regard to equality and diversity issues by providing regular updates on the preparation of our submission, and openly discussed our processes. Members of the UoA were invited to nominate their best outputs, which were reviewed at least twice by a Review and Selection Group, selected to be representative in terms of gender. We reviewed the equalities analysis provided by the UCL REF Team, and are pleased to see that, broadly speaking, outputs are equally distributed between men and women. To improve our less encouraging staff ethnicity data, we are working with UCL's EDI team to make best use of UCL resources, e.g. Fair Recruitment Specialists, B-Mentor and Inclusive Advocacy schemes. Our 2022 Athena Swan application and our commitment to the A&H Dean's pledge to embed race equality are just two steps we have taken to ensure our UoA becomes more inclusive.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

(a) Income

We have enjoyed successes in this REF period in attracting external research grants in competitions supporting individual scholarship (winning 4 Leverhulme awards between 2018 and 2019, for instance). Several submitted outputs (e.g. **Beaumont's** *Nightwalking*; **Weis's** *The Real Traviata*) are the direct result of such research funding. Major research projects are being undertaken by staff who have won Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships, including **Dart** for *Charles Lamb and Romanticism* (£159,766; 2018-21), **Shell** for *Drama and the British Counter-Reformation* (£154,990; 2018-21), **Hackett** for *The Elizabethan Mind* (£46,055; 2018-19), **Swaab** for *Sylvia Townsend Warner* (£55,744; 2019-20), and **Ford** for *Thomas Hardy, Emma Hardy and Poetry* (£47,980; 2019-20). Other external awards include **Irvine's** Anneliese Maier award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (at UCL: £52,000; 2015-20), **Aarts's** Nuffield Foundation award for *English grammar teaching in primary schools: assessing the efficacy of Englicious* (at UCL: £25,419; 2018-21), as well as two British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowships and three Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships. Some of our research and impact activities within this REF period relate directly to ongoing externally-funded projects, for example, **Dart's** guided 'Lamb's London' walks, **Swaab's** editorship of the *Sylvia Townsend*

Warner Journal, **Irvine's** co-organisation of an international conference on homilies in Göttingen (2017), and the **SEU's** online *Englicious* platform (see ICS).

We have won competitive awards from Faculty and UCL pump-priming funds for research activity, impact, and public engagement, totalling c.£97,000. These include **Dart's** UCL Public and Cultural Engagement Awards for *Keats in London* (2013-15); Dean's Strategic Awards for **Beaumont's** *Distracted Walking* (2017-18), **Ford, Langley, and Sperling's** *Poets Poets* (2017-19), and **Horne's** filming *On Location London* (2018-19); awards from the Global Engagement Fund to **De Felice, Irvine, and Freedman** (2015-19); a Beacon Bursary grant to **Horbury** for *Writing Trans Lives* (2019-20); a Creative Fellows Programme inaugurated by **Bruzzi** used to fund the project *New Old English: Performance, Poetry, Practice* (2019-20); and a UCL-University of Toronto Joint Research Projects and Exchange Activities award to **Yao** (2018-20).

The **SEU** has won various institutional awards for linguistic research translated into learning tools: *English Grammar for Teachers* (Life Learning Proof of Concept Investment Grant, 2015); *Improving schoolchildren's literacy: making grammar accessible in the classroom* (Innovation and Enterprise Knowledge Exchange and Innovation Fund (IEKEI), 2017); and *Relaunching Englicious to Market* (IEKEI, 2018). These grants have enabled the **SEU** to publish a number of freely available apps for tablets and smartphones, including *Academic Writing in English*, *English Spelling and Punctuation*, and the *Interactive Grammar of English*. The most recent app, 'Grammar Practice KS2', is an innovative teaching and learning tool aimed at school children in Year 5/6 of primary schools preparing for the Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling Test taken at Key Stage 2. The combined income for the apps to July 2020 was c.£18,550. The **SEU** also organises income-generating Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and In-Service Training (INSET) courses for teachers on the teaching of English grammar (income 2015-19: £135,700), and has published English literacy materials for schools (income 2017-19: £15,781).

A pro-rata Faculty research allowance of £1,000 is provided to each permanent member of staff. In 2019-20, UCL received a substantial bequest to UCL from Lord Randolph Quirk, Quain Professor of English Language and Literature 1968-81 and founder of the **SEU**. This endowment will fund an annual postdoctoral fellowship and, in collaboration with the Wolfson Foundation, a PhD studentship from 2021, to be awarded to the top candidate in literature-language studies. Beyond 2021-22, it is planned to fund a permanent lectureship.

(b) Infrastructure

Our research activities are overseen by the Department's Research Committee (RC), which aims to assist all members of staff to fulfil their scholarly potential. Composed of a rotating body of members of staff chosen to represent diversity of age, gender, and career stage, it determines our research and impact strategies, particularly in relation to UCL's strategic aims of inspiring and empowering research leadership, crossing boundaries to increase engagement, and delivering impact for public benefit. The RC monitors the fulfilment of our REF strategic aims. It helps to establish goals and timelines for all research projects, and appoints mentors to discuss with colleagues their research trajectory. Liaising with the Faculty Research Development team, it makes staff aware of funding opportunities and supports applications to bodies such as the Leverhulme Trust, which has funded five Research Fellowships in the current REF period. It advises on research grant applications and helps assess and enhance pathways to impact. It monitors ECR and TF research projects and has been extremely successful in supporting applications by junior staff for academic posts: during the current REF period, four ECRs and six TFs have secured permanent lectureships at leading universities: **Carver** (Exeter), **Cushing** (Brunel), **Howe** (KCL), **McCluskey** (York), **Owens** (Stanford), **Smith** (Warwick), **Solnick** (Liverpool), **Turner** (Exeter), **Treen** (St. Andrews), **Whipday** (Newcastle). One former TF (**De Felice**) was appointed as a Lecturer.

We have enthusiastically promoted the levelling opportunities presented by public engagement, knowledge exchange, and OA. Appointed as Impact Lead in 2015, **Jordan** has overseen an

increase in our public engagement activities in relation to both reach and significance. In order to grow the impact of our research, academic staff and postgraduate students are encouraged to access expert support from the Faculty Research Impact team, who provide briefings and training on the development and capture of impact. PhD and postdoctoral researchers are encouraged from the outset to consider impact activities as vital to their professional training; all must attend annual Impact Workshops. They are also inducted into OA regulations, overseen by **Roberts** (appointed OA Champion in 2016), ensuring that we are fully compliant with the proactive policies put in place by UCL. A striking example of our commitment to the OA agenda is the *Sylvia Townsend Warner Journal* (edited by **Swaab**), now available on-line (including all back issues, digitised with departmental funds).

The RC presents its recommendations for discussion at departmental meetings, and organizes Away Days, Research Seminars, and Impact Workshops that enable colleagues to share ideas and best practice, and to report progress with ongoing research and impact activities. **Aarts**, who serves as Vice-Dean for Innovation and Enterprise in the Faculty, advises colleagues on funding available from the Higher Education Innovation Fund. The RC has overseen the selection of both outputs and Impact Case Studies for REF2021. It has inducted all academic staff into UCL's Research Integrity Framework, and is the body that monitors, and would deal with, any issues relating to research integrity.

A significant development for our research infrastructure since REF2014 has been the creation in 2015 of the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS). Co-founded by A&H and the Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences, the IAS offers a forum for rigorous critical debate across disciplinary boundaries and has enabled us to diversify our research profile and to extend our impact activities. It has hosted conferences which we have organised around our prevailing research themes and interests, including the Planetary Poetics workshops (2017) co-organized by **Jordan**, who also sat on the IAS steering committee for the research theme 'Lies'; the series of linked events on 'Waste' (2019-20) co-organized by **Beaumont** under the joint aegis of the IAS and the Urban Lab; two all-day *Poets Poets* poetry readings and discussion events were held at the IAS (2017-20) hosted over 20 professional poets. Through the IAS's competitive Junior Research Fellowship scheme we have mentored two JRFs, one in medieval studies and one in contemporary fiction. **Gilroy's** SPRC is hosted by the IAS. In 2018, we negotiated the move of the newly-established Orwell Prize for Political Fiction to the IAS (**Sperling** was one of the judges in 2020).

We collaborate with a number of other centres and institutes. These include qUCL (a university-wide initiative for research in LGBTQ+ studies, gender and sexuality studies, and queer theory), Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Centre for Early Modern Exchanges, Centre for Research on the Dynamics of Civilisation, UCL's Staff Disability Forum, UCL's Urban Lab, UCL's Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis, UCL's Digital Humanities group, and the Turing Institute's Digital Humanities group, as well as the IES at Senate House (**Duncan** is on the Advisory Council).

(c) Facilities

We benefit from outstanding UCL Library resources in English Language and Literature. The Library's holdings are reviewed and updated by staff in conjunction with our Chair of the Library Committee (who is our representative on the Joint Faculties Library Committee) and the Subject Liaison Librarian. Expenditure on library resources is overseen by our Library Committee (attended by the Subject Liaison Librarian), which meets once a term. The English and Literature book fund total for the period 2014-2020 amounted to £182,134. The Library has invested in major online resources critical to research in English, including Oxford Scholarly Editions Online, Oxford Scholarship Online, Oxford Bibliographies, World Shakespeare Bibliography, Parker on the Web, Wellesley Index to Victorian Periodicals, and Drama Online. The Subject Liaison Librarian and other members of Library staff regularly hold training sessions for PGRs and new members of staff to enable them to make best use of library research resources. The substantial

online resources of the Library have proven vital in allowing us to pursue research during the pandemic.

We have an important relationship with UCL Special Collections, whose outstanding holdings of manuscripts, archives, and rare books includes medieval manuscripts, the James Joyce Collection, the George Orwell Archive, the Poetry Store, and Little Magazines. Our PGRs engage with this material in specially-designed research sessions. In 2019 we received a donation of a rare 16th-century book from an alumna, now housed in Special Collections and made available to PGRs and staff for research and teaching purposes. Staff and PGRs make regular use of a range of major research libraries and museums near UCL, including Senate House Library (which since 2019 has had a redeveloped area reserved for use by PGRs and staff), Warburg Institute, British Library and British Museum, V&A, and BFI Library. We have developed projects and links with these institutions: for example, **Duncan** is on the editorial board of the *BL Journal*, and **Stamatakis** organised a series of lectures at the V&A in 2016.

We seek to reflect our research culture in our physical and virtual presence. Our Postgraduate Common Room was refurbished and supplied with network computers in 2018. During Covid restrictions its function is maintained by a Virtual Common Room. A digital screen (funded by UCL Estates Small Projects) was recently fitted locally to enable our research activities to be shown to visitors and students. The networked computers in staff offices are regularly upgraded (centrally funded by UCL's Information Services Division), and we have access to dedicated Faculty IT support. Research seminars normally take place in bespoke seminar rooms whose IT facilities are regularly updated. Our research activities are highlighted on our website (redesigned in 2018), which also consistently features research-related 'News & Events'. The **SEU** occupies its own research space within the Department. It houses several English language corpora and a substantial library of books and research papers.

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

(a) Collaborations

We participate in both national and international collaborations across the discipline. By broadening our disciplinary base and engaging with non-humanities bodies, we bring a global dimension to our research that resonates beyond purely literary and linguistic scholarship, impacting more widely on society. **Beaumont's** Grand Challenges-funded collaboration with UCLH neuroscientist Kimberley Whitehead resulted in a multidisciplinary symposium on sleep and sleeplessness at Free Word Centre, London, as well as a commissioned art installation from artist Andrew Carnie, and a co-authored article published in the *Lancet* (2018). **Duncan** collaborated with Columbia University to organise 'Book Parts: A Conference', held there in 2019, and organised 'Tom Phillips Q&A: *A Humument* at Fifty' (2016) and 'The Book Index' conference (2017), both at the Bodleian Library. **Freedman** used grants from the UCL-French Embassy Arts, Humanities and Social Science Workshop Fund for both 2017/18 and 2018/19 to co-organize with Paris-Diderot two international interdisciplinary events, 'Sharp Peaks and Edges of Truth: Literary Haptics in the Long Nineteenth Century' (2018) and 'Reading for Texture' (2019), both held at UCL. She also collaborated with the Courtauld Institute to establish an 'American Nineteenth-Century Word & Image Studies' seminar series (2020), funded by the Terra Foundation for American Art. **Irvine** used funding from UCL Global Engagement and UCL Cities Partnership to co-organize interdisciplinary conferences on medieval bridges in Prague (2016) and on 'Mourning: Different Times, Different Forms' (2019) at Roma Tre University, where she was Visiting Professor (2019). **Yao** and Dr Melissa Gniadek of the University of Toronto developed a collaborative project 'Comparative Settler Colonialisms in Global Contexts' (funded by the 2019 UCL-University of Toronto Call for Joint Research Projects and Exchange Activities) involving PhD students from both departments.

Our collaborations have also resulted in significant publications. These include **Allan's** work with the international Keywords Project, resulting in the volume *Keywords for Today: A 21st-Century Vocabulary* (2018). **Baron** collaborated with Ronan Crowley and Dirk Van Hulle to co-edit a

special issue of the *James Joyce Quarterly*, 'The Art of James Joyce' (October, 2019). **Hackett's** edited collection of essays, *Early Modern Exchanges: Dialogues between Nations and Cultures, 1550-1750* (2015), stems from her participation in the interdisciplinary UCL Centre for Early Modern Exchanges, a research hub that has attracted speakers internationally, including Jyotsna Singh on postcolonial Shakespeare and Iqbal Khan on casting BAME actors in Shakespeare. **Irvine's** major collaborative research project on early medieval preaching texts and traditions with the University of Göttingen, supported by an Anneliese Maier Research Award from the Humboldt Foundation (UCL/Göttingen €250,000: 2015-20), has enabled preparation of an innovative electronic resource for the study of these texts, and publication of a co-edited essay collection, *The Anonymous Old English Homily: Sources, Composition, and Variation* (2020).

Other significant contributions arising from collaborations include films (**Beaumont's** Dean's Strategic Fund-financed collaboration with Duncan Hay at UCL's Centre for Advanced Spatial analysis resulted in two short virtual-reality films addressing the subject of 'distracted walking', one of which featured Will Self, the other our PhD students, Bans and Mebius); an annual English Grammar Day co-run with the University of Oxford at the BL by **Aarts**; apps (**North's** Chaucer app with Peter Robinson at the University of Saskatchewan, launched in February 2020, has 55,000 downloads to date); and podcasts (**Yao's** PhDivas podcast, exploring issues relating to academic culture and social justice across the STEM/Humanities divide, is co-hosted with the cancer scientist Dr Elizabeth Wayne of Carnegie Mellon University).

(b) Wider contributions to the economy and society

Via apps, events, films, websites, and public-facing lectures, we contribute dynamically to partnerships and collaborations internally, nationally, and internationally, and remain committed to the conservation and development of our cultural heritage. The dissemination of our research ranges from the **SEU's** *Englicious* website, grammar apps, and *Grammarians* blog to **Mullan's** multiple public events on Jane Austen or his hosting of the *Guardian* Book Club, including interviews with, in this reporting period, 43 contemporary writers such as Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2014) and Karl Ove Knausgaard (2016), all available as podcasts on the *Guardian* website.

The diversity of our external engagement is notable, from events marking our unique contribution to cultural life, like *Remembering Karl Miller* (2015), to innovative ways of communicating research to wider audiences, like **Stamatidis's** annual Paleography Summer Schools (2014-) and Study-Day Workshops (2018-) at the IES, attended by an exceptional range of users across antiquarian book-sellers, librarians, archivists, cataloguers, IT specialists, systems programmers, and machine-learning coders. Blogs and podcasts include **Duncan's** 'The Paratexts Podcast' for the University of Oxford (2015-17); **Ford's** 13 one-hour *LRB*-sponsored podcasts with Seamus Perry (Oxford) on 20th-century poets from Thomas Hardy to Seamus Heaney (c.206,000 downloads); **Yao's** 17-episode series *C19: The Society of Nineteenth Century Americanists* in 2017, and the internationally popular PhDivas podcast which **Yao** co-hosts for ECR communities.

We have a dynamic tradition of bringing texts to new audiences via performance, and museum and art gallery curation. **Hackett's** project to stage Daniel's *Cleopatra* included a National Trust-hosted event at Knole House (100 paying attendees on 23/6/14). **Langley's** adaptation of *Paradise Lost* for a public Research-in-Action professional performance at Shakespeare's Globe (171 ticketed attendees on 12/5/18) was co-funded by UCL English and Globe Education: departmental iterations of this event run annually. **Duncan** and **Shell** have curated exhibitions at the Bodleian and Sir John Soane's Museum. **Irvine** provided a video commentary as part of the BL Exhibition *Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms: Art, Word, War* 2018-19.

Many UCL English staff routinely apply their expertise towards wider public and cultural engagement. Colleagues have regularly contributed reviews and essays to public-facing

international papers and magazines, and broadcast media shows, from the *TLS* to the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, from *Apollo* to Radio 4's *In Our Time*. We have appeared at numerous literary festivals, such as the Edinburgh International Science Festival and the Hay Festival, and given public lectures at venues from Keats House and the Globe, to Westminster Abbey and the National Portrait Gallery.

Our contribution to London literary life is substantial. Since its inception in 2016, we have made over 50 contributions to UCL's annual *Festival of Culture*, using its promotional opportunities to help researchers reach a public outside academia. Topics have included 'Magic and Medieval Literature' (**Corrie**), 'Maternity in the Age of Shakespeare' (**Hackett** and Honorary Professor Karen Hearn), 'Languages of London: Celebrating Languages and Multilingualism in the City' (**Allan**), and 'Lived Gender Diversities' (**Yao** and **Horbury**). **Hackett** and Hearn's presentation generated a *Sunday Times* news story (2018). Our own festival *One Day in the City* was a multi-venue event staged by the Department in 2016, featuring numerous writers including Kazuo Ishiguro, John Lanchester, David Lodge, Bridget Minamore, Jonathan Coe, Mary-Kay Wilmers, Tom McCarthy; a day-long *The Waste Land* reading for the public; discussions by Nick Makoha on the 'Black Metic Experience' with Kayo Chingonyi, and on long-form journalism in the digital age (Ben Eastham (*White Review*), Andrew O'Hagan (*LRB*), Malika Booker, Helen Mort), and theatrical walks, talks, readings, art exhibits, and London-based conversations, with small-press poetry events and a one-off 'London Liming'. We host public lectures every year via our Visiting Fellowship scheme, including by Kae Tempest, Amit Chaudhuri, Alan Hollinghurst, and Olivia Laing.

We play an important role in poetry culture in London, both creatively (**Ford, Langley**) and via dissemination of criticism. *Poets Poets* has offered two all-day poetry readings and discussion events (held at the IAS, 2017-19) featuring over 20 professional poets, and a series of 10 day-long Creative Writing Workshops (in collaboration with the Petrie Museum) for Year-10 students from disadvantaged schools in Hackney. *Poet in the City* collaborations included 'Frank O'Hara: In the Heart of Noise', an event (initiated by **Ford**) performed in Manchester Royal Exchange and King's Place London in 2016, and events celebrating Adrienne Rich at Wilton Music Hall (2018) and National Poetry Day (2019) at UCL. **Dart, Jordan**, and **Swaab** regularly host public-facing events at Keats House. **Beaumont** delivered a talk on Baudelaire in a *Poet in the City* event at King's Place (2017), and **Swaab** one on Sylvia Townsend Warner at Poetry Southbank (2016).

(c) Contributions to the research base and sustainability of the discipline

We provide research leadership and wide-ranging service to the institutions and processors of research in English literature and language nationally and internationally. Members of staff serve on major councils and societies of the discipline: **Baron** is a Trustee of the International James Joyce Foundation, **Dart** chairs the Hazlitt Society, and **Irvine** was Vice-President of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists (2012-17) and is a member of the Council of the Early English Text Society. We act as consultants for the *Oxford English Dictionary* (**Aarts, Corrie, Irvine**). We serve on the editorial boards of leading scholarly journals and series in our discipline, including *English Language and Linguistics* (co-edited by **Aarts**); *James Joyce Quarterly* and *European Joyce Studies* (**Baron**); Palgrave Studies in Utopianism, *The Wellsian*, *Comparative Literature and Culture*, and *Angelaki: Journal of the Theoretical Humanities* (**Beaumont**); *Henry James Review* (**Horne**); International Advisory Committee for the Dictionary of Old English (University of Toronto), the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library (Harvard), and *Anglia: Journal of English Philology* (**Irvine**); *British Catholic History*, *Reformation* and Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies (**Shell**); *C19: The Society of Nineteenth Century Americanists* podcast series (**Yao**). The SEU runs a yearly international summer school in English Corpus Linguistics, aimed at graduate students and academics.

We play significant roles on organising committees for activities advancing the discipline, including the James Joyce International Symposium, London, 2016 (**Baron**), the London-Paris

Romanticism Seminar, launched 2016 (**Dart**), the 2017 and 2019 Biennial London Chaucer Conferences (**Jones**), the annual London Early Medieval England Symposium (**Irvine** and **North**, 2014-), the fifth International Conference of the International Society for the Linguistics of English in 2019 (**Aarts**, **Allan**, **De Felice**, **Wallis**), and EMPHASIS (Early Modern Philosophy and the Scientific Imagination Seminar), hosted by the IES (**Ossa-Richardson**). **Mullan** is a member of the International Advisory Board, Università Ca' Foscari, Venice, and **Weis** served as president of Goodenough College (2014-19). We have examined doctorates extensively across the UK and internationally, both in Europe – including Aix-en-Provence (**Horne**, 2017), Antwerp (**Baron**, 2019), Granada (**Shell**, 2018), Leiden (**Beaumont** and **Irvine**, both 2016), Neuchâtel (**Mullan**, 2015), and Tübingen (**Swaab**, 2018) – and further afield, including Columbia (**Jordan**, 2020) and Sydney (**Irvine**, 2020).

We regularly serve the discipline through our peer-review activities. Grants Committees frequently call on our expertise to assess research proposals: for example, **Atkinson** (2016-17) and **Bruzzi** (2014-16) evaluated postgraduate funding applications for the Irish Research Council (2016-17); **Baron** reviews grant applications for the Research Foundation–Flanders; **Bruzzi** belongs to the AHRC Peer Review College and AHRC Strategic Review Panel, and has been appointed to REF subpanel 33. **Aarts** acted as a consultant for Utrecht University's Standard Evaluation Protocol (the Dutch REF), and **De Felice** is an assessor for Italy's research evaluation agency ANVUR. We have assessed colleagues for tenure or promotion both in the UK and abroad (including Canada, USA, China, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand). We referee a wide range of academic publications for prestigious presses and journals, both nationally and internationally.

(d) Indicators of wider influence and esteem

We have been invited to take on a variety of advisory roles which enable us to direct and influence communities outside academia. **Aarts** is a Government Advisor at the Department for Education's Standards and Testing Agency for the Literacy Skills Test and for the English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Tests at Key Stages 1 and 2 in UK schools. **Beaumont** is on the Academic Advisory Board of the Museum of London. **Ford** is a consultant on the Thomas Hardy Exhibition Project. **Bruzzi** was on the advisory stakeholder board that reformed Film Studies A-levels (2014-15). **Mullan** is a member of the Strategic Group on A-level reform for the Edexcel Examining Board and a Consultant for Pearson. In this latter role, he was Chief Editor of two selections of Shakespeare criticism (compiled in collaboration with **Hackett** and **Weis**) to be studied by all Edexcel A-level English Literature students, anthologies in use since 2014. He is also a Member of the Advisory Board for the BL education website *Discovering Literature*, to which he, **Freedman**, and **Ford** have made 11 contributions on topics ranging from Shakespeare to Sylvia Plath.

We have served as external members of senior academic appointment panels at, for example, Cambridge, KCL, Dundee, Lancaster, and St Gallen (Switzerland), and acted as judges for prizes including the British Academy's Al-Rodhan Prize (**Gilroy**) and the British University Film and Video Council Learning on Screen Awards (**Bruzzi**). Invitations to deliver distinguished named lectures demonstrate our intellectual leadership. **Aarts** delivered the Jan Rusiecki Memorial Lecture at the University of Warsaw (2019). **Mullan** and **Ford** respectively delivered the 2018 and 2020 F.W. Bateson Memorial Lectures at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. **Irvine** delivered the Henry Loyn Memorial Lecture, University of Cardiff (2016), the H.M. Chadwick Memorial Lecture, University of Cambridge (2016), and the Toller Lecture, University of Manchester (2019). We have also accepted invitations to give a wide range of keynote and plenary lectures nationally and internationally, reaching as far afield as the Russian Federation (**Aarts**), USA (**Irvine**), Japan (**Aarts**), and Australia (**Beaumont** and **Bruzzi**).

Our research excellence has been acknowledged through eminent prizes and awards. Examples include **Bruzzi's** and **Gilroy's** elections to the Fellowship of the British Academy (2013 and 2014 respectively), and **Ford's** *This Dialogue of One: Essays on Poets from John Donne to Joan*

Murray, which won the Poetry Foundation's 2015 Pegasus Award for Poetry Criticism (\$7,500). **Ford** was also awarded the Poetry Foundation's 2019 Editors' Award for Reviewing (\$1,000) for his 'Entropy with Doxology' (on A.R. Ammons) published in the January 2019 issue of *Poetry*. **Gilroy** won the hugely prestigious Holberg Prize in 2019 (€620,000), awarded annually to a scholar who has made outstanding contributions to research in humanities, social sciences, law, or theology; he was also awarded Honorary Doctorates in Liège (2016) and Copenhagen (2019). **Irvine** won the Humboldt Foundation's Anneliese Maier Research Award in 2015 for her research excellence in early medieval studies. **Yao** was awarded the 2018 Yasuo Sakakibara Essay Prize by the American Studies Association for best paper presented by an international (non-US-based) scholar, and won an AHRC BBC New Generation Thinker award in 2020.

The Department, in keeping with its distinguished history, will continue to shape the discipline through the work of its staff and research students, and the involvement of creative alumni such as Christopher Nolan and Stephen Knight (both awarded Honorary Degrees in the reporting period). We are a centre for rigorous and scholarly – but also innovative and increasingly diverse – research. Combining our traditional strengths with our emerging research interests and energies will ensure we remain central to national conversations about literature, culture, and education policy.