

Institution: Aberystwyth University
Unit of Assessment: 26: Modern Languages and Linguistics
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>Context</p> <p>This submission presents the research undertaken by the Department of Modern Languages (ML) and the Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies (WCS). Both Departments sit within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at Aberystwyth University and this overarching Faculty structure supports the Departments to collaborate closely and effectively as an interdisciplinary and research-led UoA. In terms of language, both as a focus and medium for research, our expertise encompasses a unique combination of the contemporary and historical forms of French, German, Irish, Manx, Scottish Gaelic, Spanish and Welsh. In this, we achieve and sustain considerable linguistic and chronological diversity for a unit of our size, whilst also maintaining distinctive areas of vitality in research and practice in two main Research Focus Areas: A) Linguistics, Translation and Language Studies and B) Literature, Creative Writing and Culture.</p> <p>Structure</p> <p>During the assessment period, a strategic integration of the research environment for Modern Language and Welsh and Celtic Studies has reinforced its two main Research Focus Areas (as outlined above) and provided a foundation for a single submission in REF 2021. This strategic development was strengthened by new organisational structures within the University in response to systemic challenges described in REF5a, and designed to consolidate the sustainability of our research endeavour: the Institute for Languages Literature and the Creative Arts (ILLCA 2013–16), renamed Institute of Arts and Humanities (IAH, 2016) and subsequently the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS from 2018). Such structural integration has facilitated a shared research environment through annual lectures, seminar series, interdisciplinary research centres, as well as Institutional support and monitoring for research and impact. FASS constitutes the culmination of a strategic shift from narrow disciplines towards broader interdisciplinary collaboration. This suits the UoA well as its Research Focus Areas profit from engagement with related areas in other departments within the Faculty: English and Creative Writing; Theatre, Film and Television Studies; Art; Education; History and Welsh History; International Politics; and Law.</p> <p>Research and Impact Strategy</p> <p>In REF 2014 we made separate submissions to the two sub-panels in UoA 28: Modern Languages and Linguistics; Celtic Studies. The integration of our research environment during the REF 2021 assessment period and the preparation of a combined submission has shaped the elaboration of a unified strategy for research and impact that incorporates the objectives outlined independently in REF 2014. These include ensuring leading-edge research and quality outputs; enhancing the international profile of its research; embedding impact into research and public engagement activities; securing grant income and new research opportunities; and encouraging innovation and sustainability through training postgraduate researchers (PGRs).</p> <p>Since REF 2014 we have evolved our strategic aims through the development of, and engagement with University strategy, including the University's Strategic Plan (2018–2023) and Research and Innovation Strategy (2019–2024), as outlined in REF5a. Consequently, our strategic aims also align with the principles of ambition, confidence, integration, inclusivity, and collaboration laid out in these Institutional documents. During the assessment period we achieved our aims by concentrating on our two main Research Focus Areas and through collaborative and individual efforts that were supported by Faculty structures and processes, as well as central support from the Department of Research, Business & Innovation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have received support to achieve leading-edge research and high-quality outputs resulting in the publication of one online Dictionary, 7 monographs, 53 journal

articles and 25 book chapters, as well as 5 edited books and 3 creative writing outputs during the assessment period. Across the two Research Focus Areas regular research seminars, occasional lectures, and conferences provide valuable platforms for staff and invited speakers to discuss their work and, in the case of invited speakers, to foster existing and new collaborative relationships, such as Ó Muircheartaigh's symposium with colleagues from the University of Glasgow (2019). Developments since REF 2014 include an allowance for research active staff for research-related expenses (up to £1,000 per capita per annum), and a Faculty-led process for ensuring research leave for 1 semester in 8. During the assessment period, colleagues within the UoA have worked on monographs during research leave, as well as substantial articles and UKRI applications. Annual monitoring of staff research, at Departmental level and by the University's Research Monitoring Group, allow for discussion, development and support for research projects. Monitoring, alongside a culture of peer review (through the UoA's REF Reading Committees), training opportunities, and a Faculty-based mentoring system for early and mid-career colleagues, are key to ensuring high quality outputs.

- Enhancing the international profile of the UoA's research:** The research culture within the unit has always been international in outlook and impact, whilst engaging local communities and speaking to the needs of Wales. The UoA has enhanced its international profile and the impact of its research by building strong connections between different cultures and languages in a Welsh, UK, European and international context. Staff have collaborated with colleagues in France, Ireland and North America; delivered talks to conferences and institutions in Cuba, France, Finland, Spain, the USA, and Russia; and hosted visiting scholars from the USA, Ireland, Denmark and Japan. Researchers in the UoA have engaged with poets in India and the Basque Country, hosted Cuban film-makers, curated exhibitions in Germany, and held visiting positions at Université de Bretagne-Occidentale, Brest and the National University of Ireland Galway (See Section 4). Together, these projects speak to the international relevance and profile of our research, as well as the global reach of our research networks in the disciplines of Modern Languages and Welsh and Celtic Studies. To this end, the UoA has facilitated international exchange from its own research budget and external funds.
- Embedding impact into research and public engagement activities:** the UoA fosters an environment that advances research while also realizing the broader strategic aim of achieving international recognition and, through its impact agenda, shows the relevance of its research to contemporary society (see Section 4). Colleagues have been equipped to achieve and evidence research impact through engagement with Departmental away days, centrally employed impact officers, an online impact toolkit, as well as through centrally funded impact research leave and an Impact Acceleration Fund. Our research agenda focuses on a range of beneficiaries and stakeholders in the areas of Cultural Life and Education, including literary and historical societies, local groups and charities, creative practitioners, and schools. We engage beneficiaries through talks to societies and festivals, outreach events and workshops. The UoA's formidable profile in Wales is achieved through the commitment of staff to public engagement events with local groups (AberAid and Plastic-Free Aber), local and national eisteddfodau, Welsh and English-language radio and television, and also through sustaining the annual programmes of literary and historical societies across Wales, often under the auspices of Literature Wales's 'Writers on Tour Funding'.

The submitted case studies illustrate the efficacy of our strategies to promote impact, since both the responsible researchers received Departmental and Institutional support for their impact activities. Salisbury received impact research leave (2019) and impact acceleration funding (2020), and Hammel received impact acceleration funding (2018–19) and responsive impact research leave (2019). They also share best practice within the UoA in order to build a strong culture of research with in-built impact.

- **Securing grant income and new research opportunities:** These strategic activities are discussed and planned through Personal Research Plans (PeRPs) and annual staff appraisals (Effective Contribution Scheme), in Departmental board meetings, Departmental and Faculty research away days, and during bi-annual research monitoring by the Research Monitoring Group. PeRPs were introduced in the wake of REF 2014 and are conducted at a Departmental level by Directors of Research (DoRs) and Heads of Department (HoDs). HoDs and DoRs are supported by the Faculty Dean for Research and Innovation, as well as a dedicated Research Development Officer for the Arts and Humanities. Following the retirement of senior colleagues, the UoA has proactively fostered expertise in grant capture amongst all colleagues in order to grow vitality in this area. UoA staff have attended a broad range of events arranged at Departmental level and by Research Business & Innovation: research away days; guest speakers at Departmental board meetings; information events by UKRI and European funding bodies; an in-house Grant Factory and grant-writing workshops; one-to-one development sessions with the Research Development Officer for the Arts and Humanities. The success of succession planning in this respect can be measured by the external funding awarded to The Anglo-Norman Dictionary and to smaller projects by Le Mair (2019), Ó Muircheartaigh (2020) and Rodway (2014–15, 2018–19) (See Section 2: Income).
- **Encouraging innovation and sustainability through training PGRs:** The UoA trains new researchers with a view to integrating them fully into its research environment and preparing them for careers in the academy and beyond. PGR research builds on staff expertise in the main Research Focus Areas and is supported from a range of funds. Since Autumn 2013 Aberystwyth University has been part of the AHRC South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership, which was recredited in 2018 (SWW DTP & SWW2). Rodway (2015–2018) and Charnell-White (2018–2021) supervise PhDs funded by the AHRC Consortium, in partnership with Bath University and Cardiff University respectively. PGR study has also been supported by studentships from Aberystwyth University's AberDoc competition, the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, and EU-funded Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships (KESS) programme. A total of 15.5 PhDs were awarded in the UoA in the REF 2021 assessment period: factoring in the longer duration of REF 2021 this is a 38% increase on the 8 PhD awards during the REF 2014 period. In an administrative capacity, Charnell-White and Ó Muircheartaigh were subject leads for Celtic Studies and Hammel was a reviewer for German Studies in the AHRC Consortium's first iteration (SWW 2013–2018). Hammel and Huws have acted as reviewers and moderators for Doctoral Training Programme studentships for the Consortium in its current iteration (SWW2 2018–), and Charnell-White was panel member for the SWW2 Collaborative Doctoral Awards (2019).

The delivery of the research and impact strategy has enabled the consolidation of an integrated, vibrant and sustainable environment in which excellent research has flourished, both in areas projected in the REF 2014 submissions and along new trajectories. In Research Focus Area A, 'Linguistics, Translation and Language Studies', the successful renewal of the Anglo-Norman Dictionary project was a fitting tribute to the vision of its architect, the late Professor David Trotter, and continues to be a major activity. In Research Focus Area B, 'Literature, Creative Writing and Culture', Chapman's monograph on Welsh literary history c.1740–2010, Gelléri on travel writing, and Jewell on Saunders Lewis and Gracia Deledda, have continued the UoA's established focus on literature and literary culture, social and cultural history. In their focus on translation theory and discursive language, Jewell's monographs combine both themes and bridge both Departments within the UoA. Development in new research areas include Huws's monograph on T. H. Parry-Williams. Charnell-White's work on Welsh-language women's poetry, part of the Leverhulme-funded project 'Women's Poetry in Ireland Scotland, and Wales 1400–1800', will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2022, and her anthology of historical weather literature will be published in 2021.

The UoA has engaged with the open research agenda and is committed to open access publishing. In line with University policy outlined in REF5a, staff are required to deposit copies of

author final manuscripts on acceptance with the Aberystwyth Research Portal repository for 'green' open access release after publishers' embargo periods. 'Gold' open access publishing is available in journals covered by JISC agreements to which Aberystwyth University is a signatory. The Anglo-Norman Dictionary is entirely open access. On a smaller scale, Chapman, Charnell-White, Huws and Jewell contributed records to the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's open access Esboniadur Beirniadaeth a Theori (Expositor of Criticism and Theory); Rodway edited the e-book *Llawlyfr Hen Gymraeg* (2016) by Alexander Falileyev which is hosted on the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's open access e-learning portal Y Porth; Huws, in collaboration with the National Library of Wales, secured the digitisation of 'Llyfr Melyn Oerddwr', a manuscript in private hands. Research in the UoA is subject to University procedures to protect research integrity and assess issues of ethics in research with human subjects, as described in REF5a. Ethics assessment and approval is required for all projects: initial review occurs at Departmental level, and proposals that raise concerns or which do not conform to the University's framework are considered by the University Research Ethics Panel.

Objectives for the next REF period

We have developed the objectives for the next REF period through the Faculty Research Committee, Departmental committees and research away days. These include maintaining the vitality of our research environment by supporting staff to undertake cutting edge research and produce high quality outputs. We will also expand and intensify research in both Research Focus Areas along inclusive thematic lines, e.g. Translation in Practice, Language and Creativity, Disease and Old Age in Medieval Wales, Celtic Britain and Ireland, the development of the Celtic languages, as well as a further revision of the Anglo-Norman Dictionary (AHRC Funding applied for in October 2020) and the NHLF-funded project on Refugees from National Socialism in Wales as part of the Second World War and Holocaust Partnership Programme led by the Imperial War Museum and follow-on projects. Building on the success of the newly-launched Centre for the Movement of People, we will facilitate the sustainability and international profile of our research and impact by developing other research centres around the themes outlined, above, and by empowering researchers' ambition to develop larger research projects. These research centres and themes will strengthen impact activities on an individual and collective basis, and will strengthen emerging projects as potential impact case studies, e.g. Jewell's work on simultaneous translation in the justice system. Training PGRs is crucial to an innovative and sustainable research culture, and we aim to refresh the research base by developing collaborative projects with partners and building a clear pathway to PhD research from the Welsh-medium MA in Professional Translation Studies.

2. People

Staffing Strategy

The UoA aims to embed the vitality of research across the two Research Focus Areas by appointing, developing and supporting excellent researchers, and to secure the sustainability of the research environment through strategic recruitment and the training of postgraduate researchers. There have been a number of staff changes in both Departments since REF 2014, through anticipated retirements (Sims-Williams (2014), Haycock (2015), Mahon (2015), Hincks (2015), Morgan (2015), Hughes (2016), Davies (2018), Sibona (2018) and through the death in service of Professor David Trotter (2015). New strategic appointments strengthened both Research Focus Areas A and B, including Ó Muircheartaigh (September 2015, Focus A & B Language & Culture), Salisbury (September 2015, Focus B Culture and Creative Writing) and Mueller (January 2019, Focus B Culture). Le Mair joined as Marie Skłodowska Curie Fellow in October 2019 (Focus A Language).

Internally, Chapman was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2016. Following these changes, at the REF 2021 census date, the UoA comprised one Reader (Hammel), four Senior Lecturers (Baron, Chapman, Charnell-White, Huws), seven Lecturers (Goñi Pérez, Gelléri, Jewell, Ó Muircheartaigh, Mueller, Rodway, Salisbury) and three Post-Doctoral Researchers (De Wilde, Le Mair, Pagan).

Strategic recruitment for a Chair of Welsh at the end of the assessment period saw the appointment of Professor Mererid Hopwood in October 2020. Her expertise in Welsh, German, translation and creative writing bridges the broader disciplines within the UoA as well as its Research Focus Areas. She will be key in developing interdisciplinary projects and implementing the research strategy in the next assessment period.

The UoA has dealt positively with the loss of senior profiles. Through the leadership of mid-career staff in key roles, Heads of Department (Baron and Charnell-White) and Directors of Research (Charnell-White and Hammel), the unit now has a strong cohort of both early- and mid-career researchers who are building reputations in their fields and developing internal leadership roles of their own, such as Senior Research Development Lead, research centre directorship, acting HoD (2018), impact leadership, and Welsh Crucible (2015). Key achievements include promoting a research culture that encourages all colleagues to develop ideas and projects for grant capture, experience of external peer review, developing colleagues in internal roles, as well as academic awards and honours. These positive results have been largely achieved through strategic investment in the two Research Focus Areas and the support provided for staff in their professional development at Departmental, Faculty and University levels.

Staff Development and Support

HoDs Baron and Charnell-White manage research activity through the annual staff appraisal process and through the Workload Allocation Model that allocates up to 550 hours per annum to staff on teaching and research contracts. HoDs and DoRs also plan research activities strategically with staff through the Personal Research Plans discussed as part of annual appraisal interviews (Effective Contribution Scheme). These provide DoRs and HoDs with an overview of the UoA's overarching research programme, including the timing of conferences and grant submissions. Research-related workshops, talks and away days are also arranged at Departmental level to support impact activity and grant writing. Research monitoring takes place annually at an Institutional level through the Director of Research Excellence and Impact, as well as Research, Business & Innovation's REF and Research Monitoring Manager.

The UoA is committed to equality and inclusivity with regard to research monitoring. Good practice and parity of opportunity was ensured by opening the Departmental REF Reading Committees (RRC) that undertake peer review for research monitoring purposes to all research active staff. This arrangement ensures transparency and quality control at the point of submission to REF. Going forward, the UoA aims to develop the committees to provide peer review feedback for work in progress. Training was provided at Departmental and University levels for the RRCs, and both Departments collaborated on the terms of reference for the UoA's RRC and sought agreement from all staff on the final document. Similarly, the UoA has worked with all staff to develop a Research Sub-strategy as part of a strategic objective to build awareness of research process and share good practice, as well as ensuring that early career researchers (ECRs) build expertise and leadership opportunities, e.g. Ó Muircheartaigh's appointment as Co-Chair for the University's Concordat for Research Excellence Group, and subsequently the Faculty ECR Concordat Champion (2019–).

Faculty structures and roles provide additional support for the UoA through the historical role of Faculty-level Director of Research (2013–2018) and the current role of Associate Dean for Research, Knowledge Exchange and Innovation (2018–). Three new Senior Research Development Leads (2020–), including Hammel, provide further support for colleagues within the Faculty and reinforce our collaborative research endeavour. The Associate Dean for Research, Knowledge Exchange and Innovation chairs the Faculty Research Committee that comprises of Departmental Directors of Research. The Senior Research Development Leads strategically mentor research activity, encourage funding proposals and review funding applications. At University Level, a dedicated Research Officer for the Arts and Humanities (based in the Department of Research, Business & Innovation) has regular contact with the Faculty and its Departments through the quarterly Faculty Research Committee. The Research Officer also supports Departments and individuals with grant applications, through one-to-one meetings,

bespoke training sessions, information sessions, and talks at away days. All research active staff since REF 2014 have access to an allowance for research-related expenses and a regular pattern of research leave is established.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The UoA is committed to building an inclusive research environment with respect to issues of equality and diversity reflected in recruitment, promotion and staff development policies; opportunities and support for research; research monitoring and REF selection; postgraduate recruitment and supervision; and impact and engagement activities. Our research community is diverse and representative of the society in which we work, including the target of achieving a gender balanced team. Women within the unit have also been appointed to leadership roles: Charnell-White is HoD (2013–) and DoR (2015–20) of WCS, Hammel is DoR of ML (2019–) and has also been Institute Director of International Affairs. She is also on the University-wide REF Strategic Advisory Group and has been appointed a Senior Research Development Lead for the Faculty. Hammel, Charnell-White, and Jewell are currently serving as mentors for the Female Academic Mentoring Pilot Programme (2020), and Charnell-White is a mentor on the Women in Universities Mentoring Scheme (2020).

The UoA has very active Equality and Diversity Champions (Charnell-White, Woods) who attend University network meetings. Members of the UoA have worked with the Diversity and Inclusion Manager on International Women's Day initiatives, initiatives for Black History Month, and recently helped write the Institutional Athena Swan award submission. A number of colleagues within the UoA also participate in the institution's voluntary scheme 'Cyfeillion Enfys Aber/Aber Enfys Allies', making a visible effort to make the University an LGBT+ friendly workplace. The commitment of the UoA and Aberystwyth University to equality and diversity is further recognised by Disability Confident Employer accreditation and inclusion in Stonewall's Top 100 UK Employers for a LGBT+ friendly workplace. All staff complete Equality and Diversity Training and a number of networks promote equality issues and provide support for researchers, including the BAME Network, LGBT Network, Disability and Wellbeing Network and the Women in Research Network, which allows female staff from across the institution to feed into executive level decision-making and strategic planning.

Principles of equality and inclusion have been incorporated into the REF 2021 selection process, as outlined in the University's Code of Practice, with all members of the REF Reading Committee and supplementary reviewers required to have completed unconscious bias training. The Departmental REF Reading Committee has also included an independent member from a cognate department in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to monitor fair practice. Applications for output reductions for Individual Staff Circumstances are assessed through an anonymous process, with decisions made outside the Department.

WCS have a long tradition of publishing research in the minoritised languages that they study: Welsh, Irish and Scottish Gaelic. In this, especially with regard to the Welsh language, they are fully supported by Aberystwyth University whose sector-leading Welsh Language Policy is implemented across academic and service departments. As a result, all processes and documentation are available bilingually and our Graduate School has a broad Welsh-medium provision for PGRs that equals its English-language provision.

Postgraduate Research Students

The number of postgraduate research students in the UoA increased through the assessment period, as a strategic priority to strengthen the vitality of the environment and contribute towards its long-term sustainability by training the researchers of the future. Inclusion in the AHRC South, West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership is an important indicator of the quality of PGR training in the UoA, and Charnell-White and Rodway have both co-supervised PhD students in the DTP. Four postgraduate research students were funded during the assessment period by the EU/Welsh Government Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarship programme, with an emphasis on the emerging Welsh-language digital economy. These collaborative projects have had social and cultural impact, and provided opportunities to strengthen links with new and

existing project partners: Books Council of Wales (MPhil 2015); Golwg360 (PhD 2016); Menter Maldwyn and Geosho Mapping and Mobile Planning (MPhil 2016); Urdd Gobaith Cymru and the National Library of Wales (MPhil 2019).

All PGRs have a principal supervisor whom they meet every fortnight and a second supervisor to provide additional support and advice. All staff with significant responsibility for research undertake the supervision of postgraduate research students. For quality assurance purposes colleagues undertake training in research supervision and, where possible, are required to act as second supervisor, bringing a thesis to successful completion before taking the lead as main supervisor. All staff who chair *viva voce* examinations are required to undertake in-house training. PGR supervision and training happens at a Departmental level (bespoke training such as editorial skills through supervisors) and at an Institutional level through the Graduate School. Staff in the UoA also examine research theses as Internal Examiners and External Examiners within their respective disciplines.

PGRs work to agreed work plans and development targets and are monitored annually through Faculty processes, in accordance with their funders' requirements. Through the Graduate School, PGRs have access to a broad range of Welsh- and English-language training modules, and bespoke training from project partners was integrated into KESS/KESS2 MPhil and PhD projects. Charnell-White, Chapman, Goñi Pérez, Hammel and Pagan contribute to the Graduate School's research training modules. PGRs have access to appropriate office space in both Departments, as well as Departmental collections, the University's Hugh Owen Library, and the National Library of Wales. PGRs attend and contribute to Departmental and Faculty research seminars, and Welsh-medium PGRs also have access to training and research seminars organised by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. PGRs have an input into the speakers who present at Departmental research seminars, and from 2015–17 the research seminars for WCS were administered by PGRs. PGRs are also integrated into our wider research networks and attend seminars organized by the Aberystwyth-Bangor Institute for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, seminars in the University of Wales Advanced Centre for Welsh and Celtic Studies, and the National Library of Wales's lunchtime lectures series. PGRs are also given financial assistance from the UoA's research budget to attend conferences and present papers.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income

Following changes to the senior staffing profile, we have cultivated expertise within the UoA during the assessment period and embedded a culture of grant capture accomplished through the annual staff appraisal process and PeRPs, and alongside Faculty and central infrastructure. The UoA encourages applications for funding from UKRI research councils, charities and other sources to support primary research as well as engagement and impact activities such as conferences, workshops and exhibitions. That colleagues at all career stages have received grants during the assessment period is evidence of the success of the UoA's strategy for expanding the culture of grant capture to all research active staff.

More than 90% of the UoA's £1.56M research income in the assessment period has been from **UKRI and the British Academy**. De Wilde and Pagan were awarded £748,146 from the AHRC for the latest instalment of the prestigious Anglo-Norman Dictionary project (2017–2021). This fourth instalment (AHRB 2003, AHRC 2008 & 2012) attests to the project's vitality. Rodway was awarded £2,500 by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to work on an online edition of *Llawlyfr Hen Gymraeg* (1 April 2014–30 March 2015), and a £9,999.54 British Academy Small Grant for 'MS Q: A transcript of the Welsh Law manuscript that escaped the 1858 Wynnstay fire' (1 April 2018–30 March 2019). This new linguistic and textual research is complemented by the long-running project of Emeritus Professor Sims-Williams (retired 2014), 'Datblygiad yr iaith Gymraeg / the Development of the Welsh Language', which has been awarded a second tranche of British Academy conference funding (2020–25).

During the assessment period, the UoA has targeted **European funding** to refresh the research base and enable knowledge exchange with institutions in Europe. Le Mair was awarded a Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship to work on 'Subjecthood in Old Irish, Old Welsh, and Middle Welsh' with Rodway (2019–21) and Ó Muircheartaigh is taking a secondment to work on his MSCF, 'An Icclander among the Gaels', at Copenhagen University (2020–22).

External funding has also supported **public engagement and impact activities** through which the UoA contributes to society. Under Hammel's leadership, the UoA was awarded funding to the value of £50,000 by the National Heritage Lottery Fund, becoming one of eight regional hubs within the Second World War and Holocaust National Partnership spearheaded by the Imperial War Museum London. This will have a variety of outcomes and impacts including an exhibition on Refugees from National Socialism in Wales to be shown at the Aberystwyth Arts Centre and online. The project will contribute to the new Holocaust and Second World War Galleries at the Imperial War Museum London. Hammel received a total of £6,500 from the Adverse Childhood Experience Support Hub at Public Health Wales to study the adverse childhood experiences among historic child refugees to aid our understanding of contemporary challenges, thus emphasizing the relevance of the UoA's research for contemporary society.

Grants have helped to facilitate **conference organisation**, including from Society of Renaissance Studies, Royal Historical Society, the Modern Humanities Research Association, and the Andrew Mellon Foundation for Gelléri's project on travel writing. Hammel was awarded £5000 from the Butterfly Foundation (Holocaust Education) for the Kindertransport Conference in London (January 2019), £5300 from Martin Miller and Hannah Norbert-Miller (January 2016) for an Exile Studies conference in Aberystwyth, and £2800 from the Helene Rheinfrank Fond for a postgraduate workshop at the Jahrestagung für Exilforschung in Aberystwyth (June 2018).

Internal research funds have contributed to building research capacity and shaping research agendas within the UoA. Ó Muircheartaigh's pilot project, 'Register and Religion: A pilot linguistic corpus of Irish religious prose' (£3,422.83, June 2019-January 2020), and Jewell's project with colleagues from the disciplines of Law and Psychology on The Welsh Language and Translation in the justice system (2019), were both funded from the University Research Fund.

The University's central funding has also enabled impact activities that have shaped the UoA's impact case studies with a total of £21,189 being awarded for activities, including: Hammel received a total of £4073 from the Impact Acceleration Fund for travel and activity related to the Kindertransport Impact Case Study; Salisbury received Impact Research leave (February–June 2019) to plan and deliver 'Talwrn y Beirdd Ifanc' and also made use of the Impact Travel Fund to attend collaborative workshops with the poet Sampurna Chattarji in Mumbai (January 2020). Furthermore, the Hughes Parry and HEFCW funds have supported publication costs of University of Wales outputs by Huws and Jewell during the current assessment period. Hammel was awarded £1650 with a colleague in English and Creative Writing for a project on the re-assessment of the post-memory concept.

Colleagues in the UoA have benefitted from the support of the University's Department of Research, Business and Innovation with all practical aspects of the application process during the grant-writing process (see REF5a). In addition, the University's collegiate environment means that colleagues across Faculties provide feedback and internal peer review on proposals. This practice was formalised during the assessment period, and three Senior Research Development Leads, including Hammel, were appointed to share their expertise and support colleagues within the Faculty. Membership of peer review panels also provides valuable experience and support for the unit as a whole in this respect. Equality and inclusion in access to research grant income is addressed through targeted measures including an annual sandpit event for ECRs to develop projects, providing access to seed-corn funding for small-scale and pilot research from ring-fenced pump-priming funds, and 'Women doing Research' workshops in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, as well as access to the University Research Fund (Ó Muircheartaigh, 2019–20).

Infrastructure & Facilities

The UoA is outward looking and enjoys rewarding collaborations on local, national and international fronts that enrich the research and impact that it undertakes. It achieves these through Erasmus+ staff exchanges, Departmental and Faculty seminars, special lectures, conferences and outreach events with literary and historical societies, and through subject-defining journals that are edited by colleagues (see Research and Impact Strategies, below). The University offers research support and facilities such as the Hugh Owen Library, whose archive and 'Welsh and Celtic Collection' offer a comprehensive resource in Celtic Studies in terms of books, journals, and theses. Departments are allocated a discrete budget for research that allows them to invest in library stock that strengthens their research active subject areas. A broad range of electronic resources are also available to researchers through the University's website: EBO, ECCO, The Hathi Trust, ODNB, Electronic Enlightenment. Occasional exhibitions linked with research/archives have also enriched research and public engagement events organised by the UoA: Syr John Rhŷs Centenary Conferences co-organized with the National Library of Wales (2016); Gwilym Williams (1899–1917) Memorial Exhibition (May 2017), Snowdonia National Park (2017). All members of staff benefit from the University's physical proximity to the National Library of Wales (NLW). As a copyright library, it is a valuable addition to the Welsh and Celtic Collection of Aberystwyth University's own Hugh Owen Library, and the extensive manuscript collection forms the basis of much of the textual scholarship undertaken by colleagues in WCS and have been explored in conferences held in collaboration with NLW.

Research is stimulated and transmitted through special lectures and regular research seminar series. The annual David Trotter Memorial Lecture is gaining an international reputation in the field of lexicography. Speakers to date include Frankwalt Möhren (former Director of the Dictionnaire Étymologique de l'Ancien Français, Heidelberg), Philip Durkin (Deputy Chief Editor of the Oxford English Dictionary), and Laura Wright (Cambridge). This provides a forum for focused research on language, and has replaced the broader Institute Annual Lecture as a space for collaborative and interdisciplinary discussion in our disciplines. Institute Annual Lectures for the UoA were presented by Ruairi Ó hUiginn (formerly of Maynooth University) and Angela Kershaw (University of Birmingham). Opportunities for exchange and discussion with wider arts and humanities scholars are also facilitated through interdisciplinary seminar series with external and internal speakers. The UoA has hosted researchers from the Technical University Berlin, CAWCS, University of Copenhagen, Europa- University Viadrina, NUI Galway, Shizuoka University, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Glasgow, Université de Bretagne Occidentale (Brest), and the University of Vienna.

The research infrastructure in our 'Literature, Creative Writing and Culture' Focus Area has been further consolidated by the recent establishment of the interdisciplinary Centre for the Movement of People (CMOP), led from the UoA by Hammel and funded by the Faculty. CMOP encourages research, dissemination and engagement on different forms of human mobility, from fleeing persecution to travelling for leisure, using a wide range of methodological and disciplinary approaches. It operates to further collaborations within the Faculty, Aberystwyth University, nationally and internationally. Its aim is to research the past, shape the present and improve the future by engaging with all possible publics inside and outside academia by organising distinguished speaker events, capacity-building workshops for ECRs and PGRs, and international conferences. Several members of staff of the UoA serve on its working group.

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

The UoA fosters a research environment that is collaborative and outward looking. We work with others – within the University, nationally and internationally – to enhance the vitality of our research and achieve critical mass, and to facilitate the exchange of ideas, and strengthen sustainability by forming relationships that lead to opportunities for new research and impact.

Within Aberystwyth University, our researchers work across the two Research Focus Areas in the UoA and with colleagues in other departments to bring an interdisciplinary dimension to our research. Charnell-White, Hammel, Jewell and Salisbury have collaborated in international translation workshops organised through the Centre for Cultural Translation (2013–16) that, in close collaboration with Literature Across Frontiers, included practitioners from India, Poland and Turkey, and primed Salisbury's ongoing creative collaboration with the poet Sampurna Chattarji discussed in the impact case study. Creative writing and translation is also an area in which staff in the UoA have collaborated during this assessment period, notably between Edwards (left 2014), Salisbury, Roberts (left 2017) and Sibona (retired 2018).

The Centre for the Movement of People is an important vehicle for **developing interdisciplinary engagement** within the University, involving participants from Education, Human Geography, International Politics, and Law and Criminology, building on earlier collaborations both within and beyond our Faculty. Baron co-authored a peer-reviewed article for *The Bulletin of Latin American Research* with colleagues in Psychology. Charnell-White and Salisbury collaborate with an interdisciplinary research network on historical climatology that includes colleagues from Aberystwyth University's Department of Geography and Earth Studies; they have collaborated on seminar papers, conferences, and public engagement activities with the National Library of Wales (2018), Llên Natur and Wici Cymru (2017). Jewell's project with colleagues in Law and Criminology and Psychology has already attracted the attention of HM Courts and Tribunals Service, and the team presented their initial findings on the role of simultaneous translation in the justice system to the Welsh-language Commissioner in September 2020. Hammel is working with colleagues from English and Creative writing on a project on post-memory.

Collaborations with colleagues in other Welsh HEIs have been productive for the UoA in the advancement of its research and impact agendas. The Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies is a long-standing collaborative venture between Aberystwyth University and Bangor University whose video conferencing seminars have been opened up to researchers from other HEIs in Wales. Co-Directed by Trotter and, subsequently, Gelléri, it is also a venture that brings colleagues from ML and WCS together, by attending the regular video-conference seminar series and giving research papers.

Members of the UoA also collaborate with researchers in other parts of the UK and internationally, including the Anglo-Norman Dictionary project's close collaboration with OED: Oxford English Dictionary, DEAF: Dictionnaire Étymologique de l'Ancien Français (Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities), DMF: Dictionnaire du Moyen Français (Université de Lorraine, Nancy), and ANTS: Anglo-Norman Text Society (Oxford). Baron has working relationships with both the University of Havana in Cuba and the University of San José in Costa Rica, where he was invited as a visiting lecturer, and Goñi Pérez collaborates with McGill University, Bergamo University and Valladolid University. Charnell-White is part of the team for 'Women's Poetry in Ireland, Scotland and Wales 1400–1800' (Leverhulme Trust funding 2013–2017), led by Professor Sarah Prescott (Trinity College Dublin, formerly Aberystwyth University), and comprising colleagues from NUI Galway, and Edinburgh University. Ó Muircheartaigh collaborated with the Royal Irish Academy and colleagues in Glasgow University on a one-day conference: 'Eighteenth-century manuscript culture in the wider Gaelic world' (2019). Hammel works with colleagues from the Institute for Modern Languages Research (University of London) on a project relating to refugees from National Socialism, the second generation and exile writing.

Research collaborations are supported by **international networking and exchanges**. The UoA has hosted international visiting scholars from University of Limerick, NUI Maynooth, DIAS, NUI Galway (Erasmus+ staff exchange), Copenhagen University (funded by Leverhulme Trust), University College Dublin, and Shizuoka University (recurring annual research visit, 2013–17, under the auspices of Japan Society of Promoting Scientific Research), and a Fulbright PhD scholar (University of Pennsylvania, 2014–15). Members of the UoA have, in turn, held visiting positions in international institutions, including Ó Muircheartaigh as a Fellow at NUI Galway's

Moore Institute (2017), a Library Fellowship at the University of Glasgow Library (2020), and a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellow at Copenhagen University's Arnmaghnaean Institute (2020–22), and Rodway at the Université de Bretagne-Occidentale, Brest (Erasmus+ staff exchange). Gelléri was guest lecturer at École des Hautes Études des Sciences Sociales in Marseille (Spring 2018). Mueller is part of a British Academy sponsored international network of workshops that have so far taken place in the US and Finland.

Collaboration with non-academic partners has been key to realizing the UoA's impact agenda with charities, NGOs, cultural and literary societies, as well as the general public. Huws collaborated with Snowdonia National Park and the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol for his conference on book culture in Snowdonia, 'Diwylliant y Llyfr yn Eryri' (April 2018). Charnell-White worked with Llên Natur and Wici Cymru in a conference and Wici workshop (May 2017) expanding her work on ecocriticism. Research students funded by KESS/KESS2 have worked with partners including the Wales Book Council, Golwg360, Menter Maldwyn, Geosho Mapping and Mobile Planning, Urdd Gobaith Cymru and the National Library of Wales. Other examples of engagement with non-academic partners are described in the section below on contributions to the economy and society.

Contribution to the research base

As well contributing to the research base through collaboration, the unit contributes towards the vitality and sustainability of its disciplines through **editing journals, peer review and adjudication**. Subject-defining journals are edited by colleagues that provide a shared platform for new and established researchers: *Dwned* is co-edited by Huws (1995–) and Rodway edits the *Journal of Celtic Linguistics* and is on the editorial board of the MHRA's Library of Medieval Welsh Literature. Charnell-White is co-series editor of *Clasuron Cymraeg Honno*, the Welsh-language Classics Series published by Honno Welsh Women Press (2008–) and is also on the editorial board of *Llên Cymru* (2001–); Ó Muircheartaigh is on the editorial board of the journal *ComharTaighde* (2018–). Goñi Pérez has been Chief Editor of *Siglo diecinueve (Literatura Hispánica)*, is on the Editorial Board of *Editorial de la Universidad de Cantabria*, and is on the Advisory Board of Universitas Castellae Publishing House, Verdelis Publishing Company, Valladolid and of *Anejos de Siglo diecinueve*. Hammel is series editor of the Exile Studies - Exilstudien series at Peter Lang and a member of the editorial board of the *Yearbook of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies* (Brill). Baron is a contributing editor of *Mediático*, a media and film studies blog.

Our researchers are highly respected as frequent **peer reviewers for a broad range of national and international academic journals and publishers**, including *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, *Caribbean Studies* and *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, *The Huntingdon Library Quarterly*, *Welsh History Review*, *Modern Languages Open*, *Austrian Studies*, *Humanities*, *Holocaust Studies: History and Culture*, *Life Writing*, *Auto / Biography Studies*, *Sartre Studies International*, *Celtica*, *Proceedings of the Harvard Celtic Colloquium*, *ComharTaighe*, *Scottish Gaelic Studies* and *The Journal of Celtic Linguistics* and publishers Palgrave Macmillan, Central European University Press, Liverpool University Press, Manchester University Press, Peter Lang and Tamesis.

Members of the UoA also contribute to shaping research in the discipline and maintaining excellence as **peer reviewers for grant-awarding bodies, assessors for prizes and advisors to research organizations**. Charnell-White (2016–), Hammel (2016–) and Ó Muircheartaigh (2020–) are members of the AHRC Peer Review College. Charnell-White has also reviewed for Crwsibl Cymru / Wales Crucible (2018, 2019) and, together with Huws, adjudicated the University of Wales's Ellis Gruffydd Prize (2016). Hammel has peer reviewed research grant applications for the Czech Science Foundation, the Martin Miller and Hannah Norbert-Miller Trust (London), Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft (Germany), and the British Academy. Hammel is also on the Committee of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies (Institute for Modern Languages Research) and on the Beirat of the Gesellschaft für Exilforschung. Goñi Pérez was President of the Association of Hispanists of the 19th Century, 2016–2020, and Mueller has been a Committee member for the UK Sartre Society since 2014.

The UoA has hosted or organised a number of significant academic conferences in the assessment period, including hosting the Borders and Crossings Travel Writing Conference in Aberystwyth (2017), the annual conference of the Society for Exile Studies (2017) and co-organising two international conferences with the National Library of Wales (NLW) to mark the centenary of the birth of Syr John Rhŷs, the ‘father’ of Celtic Studies (March and December 2015). Members of the UoA have also organised several Welsh-medium research conferences with funding from the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol: ‘Y Gymraes a’i Llên 1986–2016’ (Charnell-White, National Library of Wales, January 2016), co-organised with Siwan Rosser of Cardiff University, was the stimulus for co-edited special issue of *Y Traethodydd: Merched a Llenyddiaeth 1986–2016*, CLXXII, no. 720 (January 2017); ‘Diwylliant y Llyfr yn Eryri’ with Snowdonia National Park (Huws, April 2018); ‘Cymraeg yn y Gweithle’ (May 2017) and ‘Cymru ar Lwyfan y Byd: Cyfieithu ac Addasu yn y Theatr Gymraeg’ (Jewell, with colleagues at the University of South Wales and Bangor University respectively); ‘John Morris-Jones ac Ifor Williams’ (Rodway with Bangor University, November 2018).

Additionally, the UoA regularly hosts two open textual reading groups for Old Welsh and Irish that have been attended by participants from Edinburgh, Copenhagen, Harvard, the Netherlands, and Ireland. During the pandemic, we successfully moved our research seminars and textual reading groups online, further broadening the international profile of attendees.

Awards and prizes provide recognition for the contribution of members of the UoA to the research base and academic excellence. Chapman (2016) and Huws (2018) were elected Fellows of the Learned Society of Wales, and Chapman became a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (2019). Huws’s monograph *Pris Cydwybod...* (2018) received The University of Wales’s Ellis Gruffydd Prize (2019). Jewell’s monograph, *Her a Hawl Cyfieithu...* (2018), has won two prestigious prizes: The Learned Society of Wales’s Dillwyn Medal (2018) and The University of Wales’s Ellis Gruffydd Prize (2018). Ó Muircheartaigh won the Zeuss Prize (2016), and the Royal Irish Society’s Charlemont Award (2018).

Contributions to the Economy, Society and Culture

Staff in the UoA contribute towards society through impact and public engagement activities, notably with schools, literary and historical societies, and the media. In particular, the Department of Welsh and Celtic Studies has a long-standing and distinctive place in Welsh culture and society, and current staff continue this responsibility with significant contributions to cultural institutions, including the National Eisteddfod (adjudicators and invited speakers), Books Council of Wales (Council & Exec; Welsh Grants Panel), Literature Wales (Director), Wales Book of the Year (adjudicator). Huws’s work with postgraduate research students on the emerging Welsh-language digital economy has contributed to the development of cultural industries in Wales.

The reach of the UoA’s impact and contribution however extends internationally, with an important emphasis on informing public understanding of cultural histories and connections, and facilitating inter-cultural exchanges. Hammel’s paradigm-shifting research on child refugees to England, Scotland and Wales in the 1930s has been recognised in the UK and Germany, and also informs a new report supported by Public Health Wales (June/July 2020). She co-curated an Open-Air exhibition on this work in Berlin in autumn 2019, which is subsequently touring Germany, and has co-curated a further exhibition at the German National Library. Salisbury’s work engages practitioners and audiences in India and the Basque Country, and he hosted two poetry sessions with internationally renowned poets Louis de Paor and Ifor ap Glyn for the UNESCO ‘Our Voice in the World’ Conference co-organised by Aberystwyth University and Welsh Government (2019). Cuban filmmakers were invited to the Wales One World Film Festival as a result of Baron’s work on Cuban film (2014).

All academic conferences organised by the UoA during the assessment period were also open to the public, for example, the annual David Trotter Memorial lectures are attended on average by well over 60 people, and the annual conference of the sector-leading MA in Professional Translation Studies bridges both research and practice and attracts an average of 40 delegates. Our contribution to the University’s Civic Mission in Wales (see REF5a) has also involved the

delivery of lectures and talks to a broad range of literary and cultural societies in Wales and beyond: Cyfeillion Amgueddfa Lloyd George, Cyfeillion Plas Hendre, Cymdeithas yr Aelwyd, Cymdeithas Lyfryddol Caerdydd, Cymrodorion Aberteifi, Cymdeithas Lenyddol Caernarfon a Gwyrfa, Cylch Llenyddol Llŷn, Cylch Llenyddol Penllyn, Cymdeithas Lenyddol y Garn, Cymdeithas Lenyddol Bro Ddyfi, Cymdeithas Meddygon Myddfai, Cangen Plaid Cymru Dyffryn Nantlle, Cymdeithas yr Henllys, Cylch Llenyddol Llanfairpwll, Cylch Llenyddol Maldwyn, Cymdeithas Lenyddol Gymraeg Lerpwl (Liverpool), Cylch Darllen Llanfarian, Cymdeithas Hanes Sir Gaernarfon, Cymdeithas Ddeintyddol Cymru, Cylch Llenyddol y Faenol Fawr, The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion (London). This activity not only promotes better understanding of specialist fields in the public arena, but also sustains the societies themselves, sometimes contributing to their very survival.

Our work also reaches wider audiences through the media and social media. Baron, Hammel and Rodway have published in *The Conversation*; Hammel's piece was picked up by *The Western Mail* and Rodway's piece appeared in *Wales Online*. Charnell-White has appeared on BBC Radio4; Hammel has appeared on BBC Radio Wales Today, Eye on Wales and The Sunday Supplement and on German radio; and Chapman, Charnell-White, Huws, Jewell, Rodway and Salisbury regularly contribute to Dei Tomos's weekly magazine programme on BBC Radio Cymru, and have also appeared on S4C (Prynhawn Da). Salisbury and Charnell-White were invited to record programmes for the Eisteddfod's alternative programme of online events for the cancelled eisteddfod of 2020, 'AmGen' (July 2020).