

**Institution:** The University of Manchester

**Unit of assessment:** 21 (Sociology)

## Section 1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

### 1.1

The Sociology Unit of Assessment (UoA) comprises colleagues based in the Departments of Sociology and Social Statistics. The size and breadth of our UoA (58 academics), affords us the critical mass and expertise to engage across a wide range of core and emerging areas of social research, including inequalities and stratification, relationality, culture and consumption, and social movements. The UoA plays a leading role in 8 pioneering research centres and institutes focused on ageing, ethnicity, sustainable consumption, networks, personal life and innovative quantitative and qualitative methods. Much of the research collaboration across the two departments comprising the UoA occurs within these centres and institutes. This includes major funded research projects, seminar series and collaborative management of the centres/institutes themselves.

The UoA combines a uniquely broad range of methodological approaches, from qualitative ethnographic research to cutting-edge forms of statistical modelling, including pioneering work on network, digital, sensory and interdisciplinary, social-biological methods. This combination of expertise allows us to explore the social world on multiple scales, from cross-national comparison and 'big data' to the specificities of dyadic interaction and personal identity, and our size and disciplinary span allows us to take a distinctively multi-perspectival and mixed-methods approach.

We continuously strive to improve and refresh our research environment and culture: monitoring our performance; implementing changes where we believe we can improve; and pursuing our key strategic goals. This can be seen across this current REF cycle. Reflecting key strategic goals decided at the outset of the current REF cycle we have:

- **Increased the volume and quality of our publications**, including award winning monographs and articles, recognised within and beyond the academy. Examples include **Pilkington's** monograph, *Loud and Proud*, (awarded the 2017 *Thinking Allowed* ethnography prize); **Crossley and Bottero's** article, 'Music Worlds and Internal Goods', (winner of the Sage Cultural Sociology Prize 2016); **Joseph-Salisbury's** monograph on *Black Mixed-Race Men*, (winner of the Philip Abrams Prize, 2019); and **Younge's** *Another Day in the Death of America* (winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize and shortlisted for the Orwell Prize, Helen Berenstein Book Award, Andrew Carnegie Medal, Jhalak Prize and Bread and Roses Award).
- **Continued to increase and diversify our research income**, raising our grant capture by 72% (to £24M (£430k per fte) across the REF cycle, diversifying our funding streams and supporting a broad range of colleagues (especially ECRs) to pursue grant capture.
- **Continued to recruit, support and develop outstanding researchers and early career scholars**, including five Presidential Fellows, seven Simon/Hallsworth Fellows, three British Academy/Leverhulme Fellows, a Marie Curie Fellowship and one Age UK Fellowship.
- **Improved our PhD completions by 24% from 2014** (to 104) by offering additional support and training.
- **Embedded and supported impact** across a range of our activities and career levels, and achieved external recognition for this work. For example: **Alexander's** 'Our Migration Story' 2019 Guardian University Award for Research Impact; **Buffel and Phillipson's** 'age-friendly cities' award from the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement; **Tinkler's** 'City Life' award for her exhibition with

Manchester Art Gallery

- **Further internationalised our research focus and expertise** with a growth in work on South Asia and Africa, and new institutional links with the Universities of Amsterdam, Toronto and Melbourne.

## 1.2 Unit context and structure

The Departments of Sociology and Social Statistics are co-located in the School of Social Sciences (SoSS) within the Faculty of Humanities (FoH). As of 2019 the School has 8 departments: Criminology, Law, Economics, Philosophy, Politics and Social Anthropology, as well as Sociology and Social Statistics. This location facilitates research support for the UoA (see S3) and enables interdisciplinary collaboration (notably through the Research Institutes and Centres). Members of the UoA are actively involved in collaborations with colleagues in each of the School departments, with departments and Schools across the Faculty, as well as in innovative partnerships with colleagues in the Faculties of Biology and Medicine, and Science and Engineering. These collaborations provide an important stimulus to individual excellence and support the activities generating a vibrant research environment: e.g. grant capture, network and capacity building, attracting international visitors and the successful organisation of research events, such as conferences and seminars.

UoA members participate in a number of high-profile research centres, institutes and networks. We play a leading role in five School and Faculty Centres and University Institutes: (i) The Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research (CMI); (ii) The Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE); (iii) The Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA); (iv) The National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM); (v) The Sustainable Consumption Institute (SCI). CMI, CoDE, and the Manchester node of NCRM are each directed by UoA members. SCI was directed by a UoA member until 2018 and retains a strong input from the UoA. MICRA was directed by a UoA member (**Price**) until early in 2020, and **Chandola** is currently Deputy Director. In addition, two influential research centres and one research network sit wholly within the UoA: (a) The Mitchell Centre for Social Network Analysis; (b) The Morgan Centre for Research into Everyday Lives; (c) Movements@Manchester

Research activity within the UoA is organised across six interlinked clusters:

1. Social Inequality and Stratification.
2. Race, Ethnicity and Migration.
3. Networks, Relationality and Everyday Lives.
4. Social Movements and Protest.
5. Culture and Consumption.
6. Methodological Innovation.

In what follows, we outline key features of these clusters, including significant publications and research projects. Each cluster involves a mix of senior, mid- and early career colleagues, including new appointments (see S2). Colleagues in each area engage with a range of external partners and impact events, some examples of which are highlighted below (see Impact Strategy) and in S3 and S4. Each theme also includes a range of activities, including conference, seminar and event organisation and editing of key field journals, highlighted in S4.

### 1) *Social Inequality and Stratification.*

Building upon a longstanding track record of research on inequality, work in this cluster adopts mixed method and interdisciplinary approaches to examine socio-economic inequalities in health, education, labour-market, cultural and civic participation, in the UK and internationally. The cluster focuses upon (i) gender and sexuality (**Fagan, Heaphy, Olsen, Elliott, May, Nordqvist**) (ii) age (**Nazroo, Price, Chandola, Vanhoutte, Phillipson, Buffel**) (iii) health and mental health (**Fe, Nazroo, Chandola, Kapadia, Rhodes, Zhang**) (iv) social class, mobility and stratification (**Bottero, Brown, Byrne, Devine, Li, Laurence, Miles, Oncini, Rhodes, Thoburn**), and (v) poverty and development in the global South (**Olsen, Chandola, Zhang**). CMI, the Morgan Centre and MICRA all contribute strongly to this area and key publications in this REF cycle include:

- *Social Class in the Twenty-First Century*, whose co-authors include **Devine** and **Miles**.
- **Bottero's** *A Sense of Inequality*.
- **Byrne & De Tona's** *All in the Mix: Race, Class and School Choice*
- **Fe's** 'Short-and-long-run estimates of retirement on health'

UoA members in this cluster have been very successful in obtaining research funding. Examples of projects, centred upon inequality in Britain and globally, include:

- **Chandola, Nazroo** and **Vanhoutte's** 'Frailty, Resilience and Inequality in Later Life', funded by the Medical Research Council.
- **Elliott and Fagan's** 'Which Fathers' - an ESRC-funded project which explores the division of labour within parenting.
- **Nazroo's** The English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), an interdisciplinary survey database on health and wellbeing of over 50s in England, which spans the medical and social sciences.
- **Olsen's** 'Gender Norms, Labour Supply and Poverty Reduction' - a joint ESRC and DfID funded four-year project, focused upon women in India and Bangladesh.
- **Phillipson** and **Buffel's** 'Age Friendly Cities', coordinated within MICRA in collaboration with the Greater Manchester Ageing Hub and the World Health Organization.
- **Thoburn's** British Academy funded study of the Robin Hood Gardens estate in London.

### 2) *Race, Ethnicity and Migration.*

Race, ethnicity and migration form a key part of our focus upon social inequality and stratification. However, the volume of work on these topics is such that it forms a distinct cluster. Adopting a range of innovative methodological approaches, from statistical analysis to ethnography, researchers in this cluster have conducted research on: (i) race, health and mental health (**Nazroo, Rhodes, Kapadia**); (ii) employment and education (**Li, Alexander, Byrne, Clark, Joseph-Salisbury**); (iii) racial and religious identities (**Joseph-Salisbury, Alexander, Tinsley, Younge**); (iv) postcolonial and decolonial memory practices (**Tinsley, Alexander, Byrne**); (v) state violence (**Tinsley, Younge**); (vi) diaspora, migration and asylum (**Alexander, Bloch, Wisniowski, De Noronha**); (vii) citizenship (**Byrne, De Noronha, Younge**).

Key publications by members of this cluster include:

- **Alexander, Chatterji & Jalais** - *The Bengal Diaspora: Rethinking Muslim Migration*

- **Bloch & McKay's** *Living on the Margins: undocumented migrants in a global city*
- **Byrne, Alexander & Nazroo** - *Ethnicity and Race in the UK: State of the Nation* (collaboration with the Runnymede Trust)
- **De Noronha's** *Deporting Black Britons: Portraits of Deportation to Jamaica*, arising from his *Sociological Review* postdoctoral fellowship
- **Joseph-Salisbury** *Black Mixed-Race Men: Hybridity, Transatlanticity and 'Post-Racial Resilience'* (winner of the Philip Abrams Prize, 2019)
- **Younge's** multi-award winning *Another Day in the Death of America*

Research is closely tied to CoDE, which received £152K ESRC Centre extension funding from 2013-17, and transition funding of £499,813 for 2018-2020. The Centre generated research income of around £2m during this REF period. Other funded projects include:

- **Alexander's** AHRC project on the 'Indian restaurant' trade in Brick Lane
- **Byrne's** ESRC funded study of school choice
- **Nazroo and Kapadia's** Lankelly Chase funded Synergy project on race and mental health

### 3) *Networks, Relationality and Everyday Lives.*

Comprising the Mitchell and Morgan Centres, this cluster focuses substantively upon social relations, empirically, theoretically and methodologically. The Mitchell Centre specialises in social networks and formal social network analysis. Research activities involve: (i) methodological innovation, including mathematical (**Everett, Schoch**), statistical (**Shafie, Voros**) and mixed-method contributions (**Bellotti, Crossley, Edwards**); (ii) software development (**Everett, Schoch**); (iii) novel sociological applications of these methods and software, including in criminology (**Bellotti**), music (**Crossley**), social movement studies (**Crossley, Edwards**), gender (**Bellotti**) and the sociology of science (**Bellotti**); (iv) research capacity-building by way of dissemination and training, including, a co-authored book offering the first ever extended discussion of ego-net analysis and a new approved Masters programme in social network analysis; and (v) engagement with social theory (**Crossley**).

The Morgan Centre specialises in qualitative research on intimate relations, personal and everyday life, and has pioneered the field of the sociology of personal life. The Centre focuses on contemporary issues around gender, sexuality, generation and the life course. Recent research has explored: (i) LGBT lives (**Heaphy & Nordqvist**); (ii) changing conceptions of gender (**Tinkler, Edwards**); (iii) civil partnerships and same-sex marriage (**Heaphy**); (iv) lifecourse and ethics (**Woodward**); (v) kinship and assisted reproduction (**Nordqvist**); (vi) housing and shared living (**Heath, Edwards**); (vii) intimate relationships (**May, Holmes, Nordqvist**); and (viii) innovative qualitative methodologies (**Holmes, Mason, Tinkler, Heath, May**).

Key publications from this REF cycle include:

- **Crossley's** *Networks of Sound, Style and Subversion*
- **Crossley, Bellotti, Edwards, Everett**, *Social Network Analysis for Ego-Nets*
- **Heath, Edwards et al** *Shared Housing, Shared Lives*
- **Mason's** *Affinities: Potent Connections in Personal Life*
- **Nordqvist's** *Relative Strangers*
- **May & Nordqvist's** *Sociology of Personal Life*
- **Woodward's** *Birth and Death*

This theme has significant funded projects, including with non UKRI-partners:

- **Bellotti's** FORTE (Sweden) funded project on social networks and responses to domestic violence.
- **Bellotti's** Alcohol Research UK funded project on the distribution and consumption of counterfeit alcohol.
- **Everett, Crossley and Edwards'** Leverhulme funded project on covert networks.
- **Heath's** ESRC-funded project on shared housing.
- **Nordqvist's** ESRC funded project on the impact of donating gametes on donors' personal lives.
- **Mason's** Leverhulme Fellowship research on 'socio-atmospherics' and 'living the weather'.
- **Tinkler's** ESRC-funded research exploring the experience of growing up amongst young British women of the baby boomer generation.

#### 4) *Social Movements and Protest.*

The development of work on social movements was a key commitment in our REF2014 strategy and has been strengthened across the current REF cycle.

Movements@Manchester provides the main core for this stream. Directed by **Edwards** and **Gillan**, the network has developed a programme of high profile events, including the longstanding annual *Alternative Futures and Popular Protest* conference which UoA members assumed responsibility for in 2018. Key research themes include: (i) new social movements (**Gillan, Edwards**); (ii) movements of the global south (**Fadaee**); (iii) Far Right and Islamist movements (**Pilkington**); temporality (**Gillan**); and new forms of consumption (**Yates**).

Key publications include:

- **Fadaee's** edited collection *Understanding Southern Social Movements*
- **Gillan's** field defining collaborations, *Research Ethics and Social Movements; Occupy! A Global Movement; and Technology, Media and Social Movements*
- **Pilkington's** award winning monograph, *Loud and Proud: Passion and Politics in the English Defence League*
- **Shlomo's** 'New approach to assess the normalisation of differential rates of protest participation'

Significant funded projects in this area during the current REF cycle include:

- **Pilkington's** H2020 funded projects, DARE, exploring radicalisation, and PROMISE, on youth social engagement
- **Pilkington's** EU funded MyPlace project on youth activism in Europe
- **Yates'** Tesco-funded work on the politics of the sharing economy

#### 5) *Culture and Consumption.*

This cluster brings together two strands of research: first, on cultural sociology with a focus upon: (i) science (**Balmer, Bellotti, Nimmo**), (ii) the arts (**Crossley, Miles, Thoburn**), (iii) law (**Balmer**), (iv) cultural participation (**Miles, Bottero, Katz-Gerro**), (v) popular culture (**Crossley, Holmes, Kirkpatrick**); second, centred in the work of SCI, which brings an innovative focus on environmental sustainability to bear upon the study of consumption (**Holmes, Warde, Yates, Southerton, Katz-Gerro, Welch, Whillans**)



A number of significant publications have been produced during the current REF cycle, including:

- **Balmer's** *Lie Detection and the Law*.
- **Crossley's** *Connecting Sounds*.
- **Kirkpatrick's** *Critical Technology and Formation of Gaming Culture*.
- **Thoburn's** *Anti-Book*.
- **Warde's** *Consumption: a Sociological Analysis* and *The Practice of Eating*.
- **Warde, Paddock and Whillan's** *The Sociological Significance of Dining Out*.

Key funded projects include:

- SCI Tesco Funding (to 2018), a block grant which funded a range of projects including Warde's 'Dining Out' research
- **Holmes'** Hallsworth Fellowship on 'thrift' and material cultures
- **Miles'** AHRC funded research on cultural participation and cultural values
- **Welch's** ESRC New Investigator grant on Imagined Futures of Consumption
- **Whillans'** BA Postdoctoral Fellowship on the temporal organisation of employment and the performance of eating occasions
- **Yates'** Hallsworth Fellowship on one-person households and environmental change

#### 6) *Methodological Innovation*.

This theme cross-cuts much of what we do in the UoA and forms part of the explicit mission of CMI, NCRM and the Mitchell and Morgan Centres. These units focus respectively upon quantitative (CMI, NCRM), qualitative (Morgan) and network (Mitchell) methodologies but each also has an explicit commitment to mixed methods research. This is enhanced by overlapping membership between the centres (e.g. **Edwards** in both the Mitchell and Morgan centres; **Everett**, **Schoch** and **Shafie** in CMI and the Mitchell Centre).

Methodological innovations within the Mitchell Centre during the present cycle include **Schoch's** path-breaking work on centrality measurement; **Shafie's** work on entropy; **Everett's** dual projection approaches to two-mode networks; and publications advancing mixed method approaches to network analysis. Within the Morgan Centre, there has been leading-edge work by **Mason** on 'facet' methodology, **Woodward** on 'material methods', **Holmes** on 'mundane methods' and an innovative collaboration between the Morgan Centre and artist Lynne Chapman, funded under **Heath's** Leverhulme Artist in Residence Award, exploring the use of observational sketching as method.

**Shlomo's** Bayesian Adaptive Survey Design Network, funded by the Leverhulme Trust and involving participation from several national statistical offices, is developing new approaches to data gathering and analysis. Within NCRM, **Shlomo** and **Chandola's** recent work on bio-social methods of research, and particularly longitudinal surveys, represents a major innovation with interdisciplinary implications. **Elliot's** work on data anonymization and disclosure risk for linked datasets is world-leading, whilst his work as chair of the United Kingdom Anonymisation Network performs an important role for the UK social scientific research community.

Key publications:

- **Bellotti's** Qualitative Networks

- **Elliot et al** *The Anonymisation Decision Making Framework*
- **Holmes** and Hall's interdisciplinary book *Mundane Methods*
- **Shafie's** 'A Multigraph Approach to Social Network Analysis'
- Mitchell Centre's collaborative, *Social Network Analysis for Ego-Nets*
- **Mason's** edited collection *Living the Weather*
- **Wisniowski et al** 'Bayesian Population Forecasting'
- **Woodward's** *Material Methods*

Key funded projects in this REF cycle include:

- The Manchester component of the National Centre for Research Methods
- **Elliot's** ESRC funded Administrative Data Service
- **Mason's** Leverhulme funded research on 'socio-atmospherics' and 'living the weather'
- **Shlomo's** Leverhulme Trust funded research on Bayesian statistical theories
- **Shlomo's** H2020 project, Integrating Expertise in Inclusive Growth 2

Comparing these areas with the clusters described in our REF2014 environment statement, it is clear that our interests and expertise have maintained a balance of stability and change during the current REF cycle. We have retained a strong focus upon innovative and mixed methods, personal life and inequality, making a strategic decision, in relation to the latter, to develop our expertise in race and ethnicity. We have fostered research in social networks and social movements within the UoA, and will build on these in the next REF cycle. We have also built on our longstanding expertise in cultural sociology and this will be a focus of further support in the next cycle. This reflects the combination of our continuing commitment to core sociological concerns with our ambition to innovate, progress and remain at the cutting-edge of the discipline. In most cases changes accord with priorities identified in the future strategy section of our 2014 statement.

### 1.3 Research Strategy

The three strategic priorities in our 2014 return were:

1. Fostering the excellence, distinctiveness and visibility of Manchester sociology.
2. Identifying key areas for interdisciplinary and international collaboration.
3. Strengthening the social impact of our research.

#### ***Fostering the excellence, distinctiveness and visibility of Manchester sociology:***

We have built on our existing strengths and cultivated excellence in new areas through strategic recruitment, research support and rewarding hard work (see S2). Much of our distinctiveness lies in our collaboration across Sociology and Social Statistics, and the opportunities this affords us to offer a comprehensive programme of research, covering many mainstream areas of sociological interest (e.g. inequality, culture, personal life and methodology), whilst pursuing emerging areas at the cutting-edge of the discipline (e.g. sustainability, social networks, social movements and advanced quantitative methods). As S2 and S3 show, we have made key appointments across all levels and our staffing strategy facilitates significant time and resources for research. Our impact strategy over the cycle has strengthened our visibility both through an extensive effort to work with policy makers and engage non-academic audiences, particularly within MICRA and CoDE. As S4 shows, colleagues are keen to engage with the discipline broadly, for example through editorship of key journals – notably, of course, *Sociology*.

**Identifying key areas for interdisciplinary and international collaboration:** Our investment and involvement in centres and institutes, such as CMI, CoDE, MICRA and SCI, which span the School, Faculty and University, has formed an important element in our pursuit of interdisciplinarity. Sociology UoA members have leadership roles in key institutes and manage large interdisciplinary teams. For example, CoDE involves economists, political scientists and geographers, as well as sociologists; CMI and the Mitchell Centre collaborate with mathematicians, physicians, psychologists, computer scientists and business scholars; SCI partners with the Dalton Institute and other science and engineering academics; and MICRA has a 1000-strong network of academics, practitioners, policy makers and members of the lay public, with academics from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds spanning the medical sciences, natural sciences and arts.

Interdisciplinary collaborations also emerge from our engagement in cross-Faculty and cross-UoM networks. **Chandola, Devine, Fagan, Olsen** and **Price** are involved in the *Work and Equalities Institute*, based in the Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS), which brings together psychologists, economists, and sociologists; **Devine** is Vice-Dean and Head of the *Alliance Manchester Business School*, the largest business and management school in the UK; **Elliot** sits on the management board of the *Data Science Institute*, an interdisciplinary unit involving mathematicians and computer scientists; and **Li** sits on the steering committee of the *Manchester China Institute*, a new interdisciplinary unit whose members include engineers and natural scientists as well as social science and humanities disciplines.

These institutional links are complemented by collaborations by individual academics. Recent individual interdisciplinary collaborations have reached beyond the social sciences to include both STEM disciplines (e.g. medical science (**Chandola, Nazroo, Price**, and **Phillipson**), biology and neuroscience (**Balmer**), computer science (**Everett, Schoch**) and mathematics (**Everett**)) and the wider humanities, including Russian Studies (**Pilkington**), architecture (**Thoburn**), History (**Alexander, Tinsley, Byrne**) and musicology (**Crossley**). **Chandola** and **Shlomo**'s work on bio-social methods is an excellent example of this kind of interdisciplinary work.

The centres and institutes also play an important role in generating international collaboration, creating an attractive environment for visiting scholars and events which raise our visibility. The School and Faculty invest significant resources in internationalisation (S3) and this REF cycle has seen productive connections between UoA colleagues and Universities in Amsterdam (migration), Toronto (sexuality), Melbourne (personal lives and health) and Copenhagen (sustainable consumption). These include research seminars, joint grant applications, PhD collaborations and research visits/placements. Our ongoing research projects have links with partners across Europe (**Pilkington**), in East and West Africa (**Joseph-Salisbury**), China and India (**Zhang, Chandola, Olsen**). The University's Hallsworth Visiting Professorship scheme is important in this respect, moreover, as it affords funding for visiting international scholars (see S3).

**Strengthening the Social Impact of our Research:** Developing and embedding the impact of our research outside the academy has been a central focus during the present cycle. This is discussed further below (1.5) and also in S3.

#### 1.4 Future Research Strategy

Developing and embedding these priorities remain central to our future research strategy, while also expanding these priorities in new directions. In the next REF period,



specifically, we aim to build on the above by:

1. **Exploring and supporting emerging strengths.** Innovation and direction are often generated 'from below', through the collaborative activities of colleagues. We are committed to maintaining an open and supportive environment in which such initiatives can flourish and achieve formal status within the School - for example, supporting an expanded network focused on cultural sociology, and seeking Centre funding and status.
2. **Consolidating and developing our 'Movements and Protest' stream.** Social movement research has gathered considerable momentum during this REF cycle, making a strong contribution to the Manchester UoA's distinctive identity. We seek to consolidate this through securing official centre status (according to UoM regulations) and funding for *Movements@Manchester*.
3. **Developing/expanding our internationalisation agenda.** While we have developed our international collaborations and profile across this REF cycle, we hope to deepen these partnerships in terms of research and PGR exchanges (e.g. with Columbia University). Building on School resources supporting internationalisation (see S3), we will develop emerging links with partners in India and Africa, particularly around joint grant applications (e.g. through GCRF funding).
4. **Continuing to improve our impact and external profile.** As we discuss below, we have strongly developed our impact profile and seek to embed and strengthen this further. We have access to a new External Relations Team, who will enable us to develop links with external partners (including for Industrial Strategy funds), while the appointment of **Younge** to the Sociology department will also raise our profile and develop our expertise in public engagement.

### 1.5 Impact Strategy

The UoA is committed to developing research with impact, through engaged social research that makes a difference to the world outside of the academy. We have sought to achieve this regionally, nationally and internationally, and with public, private and third sector organisations, the media and the general public, across our key research domains. While the scope and scale of this impact is reflected in our selected impact cases, the UoA has worked hard to embed impact culture across the research lifecycle, with many of our colleagues engaging with a wide range of partners and stakeholders at all stages from the design and conduct of research through to its dissemination. Impact both draws on, and feeds into, the excellence of our research, and the development of a research culture within which impact is embedded, rewarded and fully supported (see S2, S3).

The UoA has embedded training on impact at all levels, from PGR onwards, and impact is a key plank of our research away days, reflected in our annual impact prizes for PGR and ECR colleagues. We have drawn very effectively on SoSS' Knowledge Exchange and Impact Officer and made extensive use of the internal and external funds available for impact, such as Manchester's 'Social Responsibility Flagship' support fund, the Faculty's Strategic Investment Fund, and ESRC Impact Acceleration awards (see S3). We have also benefitted from institutional support for external partnerships through the presence of Simon Industrial Fellows (including Rob Berkeley from the BBC, Sandra Kolnik, an award-winning broadcast journalist with Suedwestrundfunk, and Sue Lukes, a consultant on migration and refugees). From 2014-2017, the School supported a Memorandum of Understanding with the Runnymede Trust, linked to Sociology and CoDE, to support its policy and public engagement work around race equality. We focus particularly on *creative* and *high-quality* communication and engagement, drawing on the opportunities offered by the University-wide initiative Policy@Manchester, and our UoA communications manager, who oversees our successful Twitter account.

Our impact cases show the range of these collaborations. Outside of these cases, significant collaborations include **Nazroo's** influential work with the Cabinet Office which shaped the Race Disparity Audit and his work on the ELSA database which has informed policies around later life work. **Pilkington's** DARE project has worked with partners across Europe around conflict resolution and mediation, and informed the Commission for Countering Extremism; **Purdam's** work on poverty and foodbanks, with local government and NGO partners across the region; **Fagan's** consultation with the ILO, Eurofound and European Commission on working families; **Olsen's** consultation with the Government Equalities Office on the gender pay gap; **Price's** role in the Pensions Advisory Group.

Our institutes and centres are key locations for impact partnerships. For example, SCI has worked closely with Unilever and Tesco around sustainable consumption practices, CoDE has partnered with the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Archive, Whitworth Art Gallery and Manchester Museum, MICRA works closely with regional partners around ageing. The Mitchell Centre's work on 'covert networks' and human trafficking, respectively, led to collaboration with governmental, police and security related agencies; and the Centre submitted evidence to a parliamentary education committee regarding patterns of interaction and relationships in schools in a Covid-19 context. The Morgan Centre has worked with Crisis on shared housing and with both the Human Fertilisation and Embryo Authority, and the Progress Education Trust on donor conception.

UoA members have also raised the public profile of our research through engaging with a diverse range of audiences through photographic exhibitions, artists' workshops, exhibitions, podcasts, pop-up events, graphic novels, sociological fiction leaflets, websites and educational resources and short films. S2 and S3 provides further detail on the School and Faculty support for impact at an institutional level. S4 reflects the broad range of partners that UoA members have engaged with across this REF cycle.

### 1.6 Open Access

The UoA is strongly committed to the open access agenda. Regular bulletins remind all staff to upload **all** pre-publication articles to the University Open Access (OA) Gateway run by the University Library Services, who have a dedicated team to deal with OA issues and queries (Section 2.5 REF5a). However, the UoA goes beyond these formal requirements, as part of our commitment to our broader impact and engagement agenda (for example, Byrne et al's recent 'State of the Nation' report, which has OA). The large majority of our papers are available for open access either in 'green' format on our website, in gold format in their journal outlet or in an open access journal. The Faculty has ringfenced generous funds for the School to support Gold OA publication for non UKRI-funded research outputs since 2016, which has been used primarily to support RCS, ECR and non-professorial colleagues. These funds have also been used to support OA for monographs, such as **Thoburn's** *Anti-Book*.

### 1.7 Research Integrity and Ethics

The UoA cultivates a culture of research integrity and promotes high ethical standards at all levels. For example, all UoA staff and PhD students receive mandatory online training in good practice for research integrity and ethics, and in GDPR requirements, which is renewed every two years. All staff and PhD students follow the University's robust ethics procedures and Code of Conduct

(<https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/environment/governance/conduct/>).

Research integrity more broadly conceived (as enshrined in the University's Code of Good Research Conduct) is secured through the supervision, mentoring and training of researchers (see S2 below) and by the nurturing of a supportive research environment (see S2 and S3).

## Section 2. People

### 2.1: The UoA

The UoA comprises 58 people (fte:55.8); including 25 professors, two readers, 14 senior lecturers, nine lecturers, five presidential fellows, and eight research fellows (see Table One).

The current REF period has seen a number of new appointments, including 10 permanent lecturers (**Balmer, Cernat, Fadaee, Holmes, Kapadia, Shafie, Shryane, Voros, Welch, Yates**), one senior lecturer (**Fe**) and two professors (**Price, Younge**). Appointments have been linked to the strategic development of our areas of research expertise, above: **Price** (ageing); **Younge** (race and ethnicity); **Holmes** and **Welch** (culture); **Shafie** and **Voros** (networks); **Fadaee** and **Yates** (social movements); **Kapadia, Cernat, Fe** and **Shryane** (quantitative methodological innovation); **Holmes** (qualitative methods and consumption).

A particular area of strength has been in our recruitment of talented early career scholars. In addition to the appointments above, as part of UoM's prestigious 'Presidential Fellowship' scheme, which is concerned with recruiting talented early career staff, we appointed five high quality ECRs to key areas of research strength: **Joseph-Salisbury & Tinsley** (race and ethnicity); **Shoch** (social networks); **Zhang** (health, inequality). We have also benefitted from the awarding of seven fellowships through the UoM's highly competitive Simon and Hallsworth post-doctoral fellowship scheme. Some of these talented researchers have taken up permanent positions with us (**Balmer, Holmes** and **Yates**). Of others who have completed Fellowships in this cycle, one currently has a teaching contract and four have taken up permanent academic posts at York, St Andrews, Liverpool and Mannheim. **De Noronha** took up a permanent lectureship at UCL in January 2021.

### 2.2: Career Development and Progression

Alongside the recruitment of exciting new talent, the successful retention and development of our existing staff forms a key plank of our research strategy, providing a strong foundation for our research culture, at all career levels. All new ECRs are appointed a mentor, who meets regularly with them, offering information and advice regarding all aspects of their role and career trajectory. We provide dedicated career development guidance for early career colleagues as they go through probation and apply for promotion, and support them through the process. Annual Performance and Development Reviews (PDRs) are also used to identify and encourage colleagues to apply for promotion, or to recognise exceptional performance. In addition, the School holds annual workshops for colleagues thinking about applying for promotion, and has an additional round of review prior to submission to provide feedback on applications. During the current cycle 14 lecturers have been promoted to senior lectureships, eight senior lecturers to professorships and four to readership. In addition, one research fellow has been promoted to a senior fellowship.

All permanent research active staff have broadly equal departmental workloads (40%

teaching, 40% research, 20% administration). New ECR staff have lighter teaching and administrative loads (usually 50% of a normal teaching load and no administration during their first year, with a gradual increase during the following two years, until they carry a normal load in their fourth year).

Career development of all staff is supported through the annual PDR process. PDRs check workload balance, assess individual research activities and plans, and identify support needs. Research expectations are incorporated into the PDR, covering: externally funded research bids; conference attendance; publication plans; and impact and dissemination activities. This aids career planning and helps to identify areas for improvement, future support and seedcorn investment. These elements, particularly impact and engagement, are all fully integrated into recognition and reward processes around probation and promotion, and are taken into account in workload allocations.

PDRs account for different career stages and are used to nurture the careers of ECR research fellows and associates. This makes UoM an excellent springboard for early career researchers (ECRs) and Research Contract Staff (RCSs). Six research fellows (**Balmer, Becares, Holmes, Yates, Buffel, Zhang**) and four research associates (**Cernat, Kapadia, Shryane, Welch**) have been transferred to permanent posts since 2014. In addition to the UoM Concordat Implementation Plan (Section 3.3.2 REF5a), the School has established a bespoke policy for Research Contract Staff (many of whom are based in the Departments of Sociology and Social Statistics) (see 2.3 below).

Each staff member is allocated £2,000 p.a. to support their research, and departments provide further seedcorn funding for targeted development activities, in addition to School and Faculty funds (see S3). Colleagues are encouraged to present at an international conference at least once every two years and at a national conference annually. They are entitled to one semester of academic leave in every seven semesters, subject to producing a research plan and final report. All full-time permanent staff in post since 2014 have been entitled to two such periods of leave during this REF cycle, with many having additional teaching relief funded by research centres.

The Staff Learning and Development Unit provides career development opportunities for researchers at all career stages. In addition, the mandatory Faculty New Academics Programme includes five modules on research-related skills, whilst the UoM's ECR website offers additional guidance to those working in HE. The support and encouragement that we offer to ECRs is reflected in the fact that three of them have won prizes for their work during the current REF cycle. Ruiz was awarded the International Association of Survey Statisticians' 2019 Cochran-Hansen prize for the best paper on survey research methods submitted by a young statistician; Vanhoutte was awarded the LIVES Best Paper Award for Early Scholar 2018; and **Schoch** won the International Communication Association Best Paper Award, 2019. Teaching-focused lecturer, Abbott won the Philip Abrams prize in 2020 for his monograph *The Self, Relational Sociology and Morality in Practice*.

### 2.3 Equality and Diversity

As a large and diverse unit, with a strong research expertise in inequality, the UoA is committed to the advancement of equality in employment and career development of all staff. We believe that this is an important means of fully unlocking research potential, in addition to its obvious social justice dimension. Equality data monitoring and action planning is embedded into annual performance reviews, and in recruitment and promotion practices. Diversity figures for the UoA are summarised in Table One.

**Table One: UoA Diversity Breakdown**

	All	Female	BAME
Professors	25	13	4 (17%)
Readers	2	1	1
Senior Lecturers	14	5	0
Lecturers	9	4	6 (46%)
Research Fellows	8	2	0

Whilst we recognise that we can still improve and have strategies in place to do so (see below), these figures mark an improvement on our previous REF return (particularly in relation to BAME staff where we are above sectoral norms for Sociology departments nationally). Four female professors within the UoA have senior management roles: **Alexander** is Director of Research for the School and sits on Senate and the Board of Governors, **Devine** is Director of Alliance Manchester Business School, **Fagan** is UoM's Vice President for Research, and **Heath** is Faculty Vice Dean for Postgraduate Research. In addition, the heads of both departments in the UoA are women (**Bloch** and **Olsen**), as is the School's PGR director (**Woodward**). **Heaphy**, from the UoA, is Vice-Dean and Head of the School of Social Sciences.

UoM and SoSS have implemented four initiatives to further improve our diversity profile:

- 1. Fixed Term Contracts.** In 2017, the School established a Research Contract Staff Working Group to look at the management and career development of fixed-term research staff and developed a range of new policies and procedures. These included clearer guidance for PIs on their responsibilities, a new Network Co-ordinator position at School level (currently **Balmer** from the UoA), and the establishment of a £1,000 p.a. Career Development Allowance, to support independent career development.
- 2. Promotions.** Academic promotions are another area where equality and diversity issues may arise. To address these issues, the Head of School runs an annual promotion workshop, to ensure that staff understand promotion criteria and process. The School Promotion Committee (SPC) operates a 'dry run' each November, where draft applications are considered, and feedback is given to all candidates (and senior colleagues) on how they might strengthen their application.
- 3. Staff Diversity Training.** All academic staff within SoSS have undertaken courses on unconscious bias and equality and diversity within the current REF cycle. These courses focus particularly upon issues relating to recruitment, promotion and PGR supervision.
- 4. Athena SWAN.** SoSS has held an Athena SWAN bronze award since 2017. Its Equality and Diversity Committee, established in 2016, meets twice a semester and includes representatives from every department and research centre in the School. A 'caring costs fund' was introduced in 2018; this allows all academic staff (including fixed-term) and PGRs to apply for money to cover the costs of looking after children or other dependents while away from home outside working hours (e.g. attending a conference or seminar). The Faculty is currently piloting a scheme to give additional sabbatical leave to women returning from maternity or adoption leave.



## 2.4 PGR Training and Development

Our research culture is enriched by a large postgraduate community, whose members are key players in our collective intellectual life. During the REF period UoA staff supervised 104.09 FTE PhD students to successful completion, compared with 83.14 FTE in REF2014. In addition we have enjoyed year-on-year increases in recruitment to our suite of Masters courses (three of which enjoy ESRC RT recognition), with a healthy through-flow of students from the Masters to the PhD programme.

We offer financial support to PhD students through our involvement in: the North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP) and its annual competitive bursary scheme; the School's own internally funded bursary competition (see S3); and bursary schemes (funded jointly by RCUK and matched, Faculty funds) available in CoDE and MICRA respectively. We support student applications to these schemes and seek to maximise success in them by way of an internal review, with feedback to applicants and support through the revision process by prospective supervisors.

Between 2014 and 2016 PGR training was coordinated by the NW Doctoral Training Partnership, the second largest of the ESRC's 21 DTCs, comprising UoM, the University of Liverpool and Lancaster University. In 2016 Keele University joined and the consortium was renamed the North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership (NWSSDTP). The partnership coordinates collaborative activities such as cross-DTP conferences and workshops run by *Methods NorthWest*, through its 'Methods Exchange' programme. Members of the UoA held lead roles in the establishment of the original DTC, and UoM is currently lead partner for *Methods Northwest*, directed 2018-20 by **Heath**. **Heath** is the institutional lead for NWSSDTP, which is guaranteed 65 new PGR studentships per year to support doctoral research and training. It has a particular focus on advanced quantitative methods, with UoM leading this strand of work, and a strong and growing emphasis on interdisciplinary and cross-institutional projects. Students can access an impressive array of training and high-quality interdisciplinary expertise across the three HEIs.

In addition to NWSSDTP, Manchester is the only university to have successfully obtained funding for two ESRC Centres for Doctoral Training: in BioSocial research (with UCL and Essex) and in Data Analytics and Society (with Leeds, Liverpool and Sheffield), with **Chandola** and **Elliot**, respectively, taking lead roles.

Methods@Manchester also has a key role in PGR training and holds an annual 'Methods Fair', a day-long event early in the academic year. PGR students are able to access Methods@Manchester's regular seminars and training events and their annual summer school (running since 2012). Members of the sociology UoA are always strongly represented at these events. For example, the Mitchell Centre puts on two courses (Introduction to Social Network Analysis and Advanced/Statistical Network Analysis) every year, CMI runs 'Introduction to Longitudinal Data Analysis using R' and the Morgan Centre runs a course on 'Creative Approaches to Qualitative Research'.

All potential PGR students are interviewed by a panel including possible supervisors and an independent Chair prior to acceptance. All supervisors receive mandatory unconscious bias and supervisory training. PhD students receive joint supervision (at least two supervisors), broadening the expertise available to them. All have allocated desks in the open plan areas of the departments across the whole of their PhD studies. New students participate in a range of induction activities, are expected to participate in fortnightly skills workshops, and have access to an online postgraduate resource and communications hub. In addition, the UoM has a bespoke online PGR progression

system, 'eProg', which provides a platform for students, academics and administrative staff to record and track key progression milestones from registration to examination, and allows students to book training activities online. Student progression is supported by annual mid- and end of year reviews with an independent assessor. In addition, the School provides tailored completion support, which has contributed to the UoA's improved completion rates.

To encourage student participation in academic conferences and similar events to advance their career prospects the Research Training Support Grants made available to all full-time students have been increased from £500 to £1,000 per annum during this REF cycle. In addition, £3K fieldwork bursaries have been introduced for students not supported by RCUK grants and a dedicated £50K Student Enhancement budget has been instituted to support School activities which improve the experience and opportunities of PGR students.

Postgraduates are invited to participate in all seminars, reading groups and workshops organised by the UoA and its affiliated centres and institutes, and have access to funding and support where they wish to organise their own. Their co-location within a number of purpose-built large open-plan spaces encourages a communal spirit and this is further enhanced through a monthly postgraduate bulletin, edited by a third year PGR student and distributed to all postgraduate students and staff. In these ways our postgraduate students play an active role in our research community and make an important contribution to it.

Employability is a key element of our research training, in terms of impact and publications. We provide bespoke impact workshops annually, and support impact related events (particularly at the ESRC Social Science Festival, see S3), and we hold annual workshops on publishing drawing on expertise from within the UoA. Many of our PGR students have published papers (individually or with their supervisors) in leading journals during their studies, including papers in *Sociology*, *the British Journal of Sociology*, *Theory, Culture and Society*, *Feminist Review*, *Social Networks* and *Methodological Innovations*. Others have won prizes and been awarded scholarships or bursaries to participate in events, including a fellowship sponsored by the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* and a bursary to fund participation in a major international symposium on social movements in Florence. Others still have taken up exciting work placement opportunities, including a recent example at the Cabinet Office.

Our PGR students have an excellent track record in further employment. A number have taken up permanent lecturing posts at institutions including the universities of Anadolu (Turkey), Leicester, Liverpool, Nottingham, Shanghai, Taichung (Taiwan), Warwick, York and Yunann (China) (as well as Manchester itself). Others have moved on to postdoctoral research posts at institutions including the universities of Cambridge, Dublin (UCD), Edinburgh, Leuven, London (UCL), Mexico City (NUM), Oxford, Sherbrooke (Canada), Sussex, and again Manchester. In addition, a number of our students have taken up research posts at institutions outside of the university sector, including the Office for National Statistics, Google Deep Mind, the United Nations (Human Rights Office), the US Department of Energy and the Australian Institute for Family Studies.

### **Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

The UoA continues to enjoy a strong record of success in obtaining high profile research grants from prestigious sources, with income spend during the REF period totalling

£24.M, a 72% increase on REF 2014. Over 65% of REF eligible staff have held grants as PI or Co-I. In addition to significant ongoing funding for CoDE (ESRC) and SCI (Tesco) notable new grants obtained during this period include:

- £374K from ESRC “Curious Connections: The Impact of Donating Egg and Sperm on Donors' Everyday Life and Relationships” (2017-19)
- £456K from AHRC “Beyond Banglatown: continuity, change and new urban economies in Brick Lane” (2018-20)
- £487K from Lankelly Chase Foundation “Establishing a 'knowledge hub' on ethnic inequality and severe and multiple disadvantage” (2017-22)
- £500K transition funding from ESRC for “Understanding the dynamics of ethnic identity and inequality in the UK (CoDE)” (2018 -20)
- £571K from ESRC “Transitions and Mobilities: Girls growing up in Britain 1954-76 and the implications for later-life experience and identity” (2017-20)
- £833K from ESRC “National Centre for Research Methods” (2014-2019)
- £912k H2020 “Dialogue About Radicalisation and Equality – DARE” (2017-21)

In line with our stated REF2014 priority the UoA has worked hard to diversify its sources of research income. Although we continue to have significant success with RCUK/UKRI awards (£10.5m) this cycle has seen the increase in non-RCUK/UKRI sources (to £10.8m), and we will seek to strengthen alternative funding avenues in the next period, particularly focusing on international and industrial partnerships (see Section 1 future strategic aims). Examples from the current cycle include: £3.4m from the EU, £2.1m from charities, £3m from commercial sources, and £450K from local and national government.

UoA members are also well represented in collaborative awards with other leading institutions: for example, **Chandola's** co-directed ESRC funded International Centre for Lifecourse Studies in Society and Health (with UCL), **May's** work with the Finnish Centre of Excellence on Ageing and Care, **May** and **Chandola's** involvement in the ESRC Centre on Society and Mental Health (KCL), and **Elliot** with NCRM. **Pilkington's** DARE project has 14 international university partners, (including Poland, Tunisia, Turkey, Croatia and Russia), while her PROMISE project has 8 academic partners (including Croatia, Russia, Germany, Slovakia and Portugal).

Support for research is organised at Departmental, School and Faculty level. In addition, as discussed in S1, the UoA plays a significant role in School, Faculty and University Centres and Institutes (CoDE, SCI, MICRA, CMI) which form a locus for research support and funding activities.

#### **Departmental:**

In addition to the departmental career support structures discussed in S2, each department has a research director (DRD) who oversees department research strategy and sits on the School Research Committee (SRC). All REF eligible staff in the School have an annual Research Support Allowance of £2,000 p.a. (increased from £1,000 since 2015), which can be spent, without prior approval, on any research-related activity, such as conference attendance or pump-priming research. Since 2018, research contract, teaching focused and fixed term teaching staff have a Career Development Allowance of £1,000 p.a. to support independent research career development.

Both Sociology and Social Statistics departments hold annual research days and provide space to disseminate UoM principles of good research conduct, reflect on

research strategy, consider new funding opportunities, opportunities for collaboration and develop approaches to impact. There is a monthly departmental seminar, and a number of vibrant reading groups supported by Departmental funds (e.g. decolonial, CoDE, social movements, pragmatism) which provide support on works in progress and publication.

**School:**

The academic management of the School's research strategy is overseen by the School Research Director (SRD), supported by the School PGR and Social Responsibility Directors. Since 2016, School research strategy is also supported by new roles in Internationalisation and Business Engagement. Since 2018, a Network Co-ordinator has developed support for research contract and ECR staff. The UoA has significant input into research strategy across the School through these roles (**Alexander, Balmer, Heaphy, & Woodward** currently hold School leadership roles related to research).

SoSS has made significant investment in research structures and support in this REF period, which have supported research culture and activity in the UoA. From 2018, the School established the Grant Management and Administration Team, who provide post award support for externally funded grants and co-ordinate the School's Research Contract Staff policy. This has been of particular benefit to the UoA and related Centres and Institutes where many of the Research Contract Staff are located. From 2018-19 the School employed a full-time Research Promotion Manager, who assisted with opportunities for media and policy and public engagement. In 2019, this post was folded into an expanded External Relations unit (5 people), which is responsible for supporting external profile, website, and research related business engagement activities, conferences, workshops and other research events.

The School-based Research Support Hub comprises a Research Support Manager and REF Manager (from 2018), four research support officers (RSO) and two Finance Officers. The UoA has a dedicated RSO to advise on grant applications from Sociology and Social Statistics. In addition, there is a knowledge exchange and impact officer who provides expert advice on designing and maximizing the impact of research. From 2016 a grant writer works with individual applicants or teams in priority areas to develop research ideas and translate them into high quality applications. This role has particularly targeted training and support for ECR applications and has led directly to positive funding outcomes – for example, **Welch's** ESRC New Investigator award on Imagined Futures of Consumption. The School Research Office co-ordinates a number of bespoke training sessions for departments and doctoral and early career researchers/research contract staff, particularly around grant writing, publication, and impact and engagement.

The School Research Budget has increased from £25,000 per annum in 2014 to £64,000 in 2018/19, to £105,000 in 2019/20 (following the incorporation of the Faculty of Law within SOSS in 2019). In addition, the School has dedicated annual Social Responsibility funds, (£20,000 in 2019-20), an Internationalisation budget (£40k) and Business Engagement budget (£10,000). Since 2015 the School has run a competitive biannual competition for small grants (up to £2,000) for grant preparation, impact and engagement, networks and collaboration and internationalisation. Members of the UoA have received 36 of these awards in the REF period (worth nearly £63,000). This has been of particular benefit for RCS and ECR staff - for example **Joseph-Salisbury** developed workshops on mixed-race with NGOs and academic partners in Ghana, **Buffel** held stakeholder meetings for the Manchester Urban Ageing Research Group, **Edwards & Gillan** organised conferences to raise the profile of social movements

research and **Wisniowski** undertook primary research and stakeholder events on climate change and migration for grant preparation.

As noted in S2, the School provides a PGR Student Experience budget which has risen from £8.5k in 2014/15 to £50k in 2019/20. It has increased the Research Training Support Grant from £500 to £1,000 per annum (£3k in total per student) to encourage PhD participation at academic conferences and similar career development events. In addition to the 42 funded School PhD scholarships offered annually, funded at RCUK levels, the School provides £3,000 fieldwork bursaries for non-RCUK students. Every PhD in years 1-3 (i.e. normal registration period) is guaranteed an allocated desk.

#### **Centres and Institutes:**

The School hosts a number of Faculty and School Centres and Institutes (see S1). Many UoA staff members are actively engaged with these Centres and Institutes with the UoA providing directors for CMI (**Everett**), MICRA (**Price** to 2019, **Chandola**), CoDE (**Nazroo** and **Byrne**), SCI (**Southerton** to 2018). The specialised focus of research Centres and Institutes, combined with their size, enable them to contribute to our research environment in important ways. They not only provide space and interdisciplinary intellectual forums, events and seminars for a range of researchers, but also offer methods training, mentoring, grant writing support and seedcorn funding for ECRs and RCSs, focused on impact and piloting new research.

As examples, the Mitchell and Morgan Centres provide bespoke methods training, support for funding bids, mentoring, peer review of grants and publications, and seminars/research events and networks. The Morgan Centre publishes free-to-download 'toolkits' pertaining to specific aspects of methodology on its website, alongside various audio-visual aids. In 2017-19, the Morgan and Mitchell Centres were each awarded 18-month postdoctoral fellowships, funded by the School, to support these activities. CMI runs approximately 25 short courses on various quantitative methods every year and hosts the Manchester Q Step Centre, providing training in quantitative methods to undergraduate and postgraduate students. These initiatives make a major contribution to research capacity within the UoA, SoSS and the wider social scientific community.

CMI and the Mitchell Centre each organise an open weekly seminar series and all units regularly organise conferences, workshops and seminars. These events provide frequent and regular opportunities for researchers across all career stages to discuss shared research interests and serve to integrate postgraduate students tightly within our research community. In addition, the centres and institutes contribute to research capacity by way of data management and archiving. During the current REF cycle, for example, the Mitchell Centre has developed an on-line archive of 'covert network' datasets. In addition, CMI hosts the Manchester component of the UK Data Service and the UK Anonymization Network, and has developed a new Data Science Research Partnership (DSRP) with the BBC.

#### **Faculty/University:**

In addition, the Faculty of Humanities has a range of research support funds to which staff can apply. These include the Humanities Strategic Investment Fund (HSIF), which supports activities related to the University's research strategic goals and internationalisation strategy, and Social Responsibility funds to support public engagement activities. It also administers the ESRC's Impact Acceleration Account. A fund of £1m was awarded to the University in 2017, to foster collaborative activities between UoM staff and non-academic partners, with a further £1m awarded in 2019.



Members of the UoA were awarded five HSIF grants (totaling over £65,000) which have supported research grant applications (e.g. **Elliott** on data science). UoA members have also been awarded 10 IAA grants in this period, worth over £300,000 (see below). The Faculty also runs an annual Simon/Hallsworth postdoctoral fellowship scheme (6 awarded in UoA, see Section 2) as well as a visiting professor programme (11 visitors from six countries) and Simon Industrial Fellowship (3 held in the UoA - Berkeley, Kolnik and Lukes). These have enabled the UoA to develop and embed research links with international institutions such as Copenhagen, Renmin, Toronto, Columbia, Melbourne and Australia National Universities, and with research partners in China, India and Bangladesh. It has also facilitated engagement with third sector, government and private sector organisations, such as Rochdale Borough Council, Runnymede Trust, Migration Works, the BBC and Sudwestrundfunk. These links will be expanded in the next REF period to support our international and industrial strategy. The UoA has also benefitted from conference support from the Hallsworth Endowment which has supported three events in the REF period: **Holmes**' 'Make Do and Mend' expo and two major CoDE events, including their 2014 launch event.

The Professorial enhanced research leave scheme (PERL) is a Faculty initiative to support senior professors in continuing to build their research leadership and to publish high quality, internationally leading research outputs. The award provides one semester of leave to successful applicants. One member of the UoA (**Heath**) has benefited from PERL.

#### **Impact:**

The UoA has placed particular emphasis on developing the impact of its research and has had notable successes in this area across a range of arenas (see S1, S4). Each UoA has an 'Impact Lead', an experienced member of academic staff who advises on impact at UoA level. The School has a dedicated knowledge exchange and impact officer, a post-award team and an external relations team who work with individuals and groups to develop impact and profile. Training and networking events are organised at Faculty, School and UoA levels, encouraging colleagues to embed impact activity into their research plans, share best practice and to build relationships with research users and potential beneficiaries. This is supported by the Business Engagement lead and the Policy@Manchester initiative; a team of Professional Services (PS) colleagues working to connect researchers with policymakers and influencers. The School provides ringfenced funds for impact work (£30k in 2019-2020), and access to School and Faculty Social Responsibility funds. Colleagues have been awarded over £300,000 in total from ESRC IAA funds for a range of impact related work. These have supported impact and engagement projects, which have underpinned our impact case studies and additional impact work in schools (**Byrne**), with Trades Unions (**Nazroo**), on organizational change (**Fagan**) and extremism (**Pilkington**).

The UoA has a dedicated Communications Officer, who oversees Sociology's successful Twitter account. The Sociology Twitter account has over 12,000 followers, and in 2019 our tweets had over 530,000 impressions. Supported by School and Faculty funds, members of the UoA have worked with the University's cultural institutions, for example, through research on cultural industries (Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester Museum), education (Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre), consumption (Central Library), and on the Peterloo anniversary (John Rylands Library) to expand their public engagement regionally.

The School is also the Lead on the ESRC Social Science Festival, which has run

annually since 2015 (in collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan and Salford Universities) with a budget of £20,000. The Festival has raised the profile of Social Science and UoA research in the city and region through over 90 funded events to a diverse range of audiences. For example, PhD and ECR colleagues have held public events with older populations ('Living Library' and 'Reimagining the Future for Older People'), school children (Britain by Numbers – the big social science data quiz, and 'Telling Migration Stories with Data') and HIV positive individuals (LHives: Narratives of HIV). These underpin our strategy of developing impact from our research across the research lifecycle from PhD and RCS colleagues to senior staff.

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

We see collaboration within and across the discipline as key to driving and maintaining high quality research and innovation, empirically, theoretically and methodologically. As noted in S1, members of the UoA are centrally involved in interdisciplinary collaborations at School, Faculty and University level: all of our Institutes and Centres are interdisciplinary in nature: CoDE collaborates with colleagues in Economics, Politics, Anthropology and History, SCI with Politics and Engineering, MICRA with Biology and Medicine, Morgan Centre with Law, Geography, Social Work and AMBS, and the Mitchell Centre with Mathematics, Biology, Criminology and Computing. The ELSA survey is co-directed by **Nazroo** with an Economist at the Institute for Fiscal Studies, while **Chandola**, **Devine** and **Fagan** work with colleagues at the AMBS Work and Equalities Institute.

Our research collaborations are also national and international in scope: the NCRM node is a partnership with Southampton, **Alexander** works with historians in Cambridge, **Chandola's** research is with medics and social statisticians at Kings, Essex and Imperial, **Nazroo's** Synergi Collaborative Centre grant collaborates with medical colleagues at Queen Mary, **Pilkington's** H2020 projects have 22 academic partners in 17 countries in Europe (and Turkey and Tunisia); **Olsen** works with development partners in India; **Joseph-Salisbury** in East and West Africa; **Zhang** in China.

We make a strong contribution to the research base of the discipline and the academy in the UK and globally. Involvement in a range of areas and roles ensures that UoA members remain at the cutting-edge of their specialised research areas and the discipline, and play an active role in shaping the future of the discipline, and supporting the development of early career scholars. UoA members (**Joseph-Salisbury** and **Alexander**) recently led on an important BSA funded project into racial and ethnic inequality in the discipline, with their recommendations accepted by the BSA for implementation. **Fagan** was a member of the [British Academy](#) Working Group on Interdisciplinary Research and Higher Education (2015-16) and report co-author (2016) *Crossing Paths: Interdisciplinary institutions, careers, education and applications*.

Our contributions can be summarised under 6 headings:

(i) **Hosting and editing leading research journals and book series.**

In the current REF period, UoA members have edited 13 key disciplinary and field journals including:

- *Sociology* (2018-date) (**May**, **Chandola** and others in the UoA),

- *Social Movement Studies* (2009-date) (**Gillan, Edwards** and others in the UoA)
- *Social Networks* (2017-date)(**Everett**)
- *European Journal of Development Research* (2017-2020) (**Olsen**)
- *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* (2011-2019) (**Alexander**)

In addition, we co/edit four prestigious book series:

- *Transforming Capitalism* (2014-date) (**Edwards**)
- *Reproduction, Culture and Society* (2018-19) (**Nordqvist**)
- *Ageing in a Global Context* (2017-date) (**Phillipson**)
- *Palgrave Studies in Relational Sociology* (2017-date) (**Crossley**)

We sit on the editorial boards of 48 different journals, including: *Acta Sociologica*, *the Sociological Review*, *Contemporary Society*, *Body and Society*, *Cultural Sociology*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ethnography*, *New Formations*, the *European Journal of Ageing* and *Migration Studies*.

#### (ii) Funding Body and Professional Association Work

We are represented on the boards of seven professional associations, including:

- *British Sociological Association*,
- *International Sociological Association*,
- *European Sociological Association*,
- *Royal Statistical Society*.

UoA members contribute to award panels for major funding bodies, including, over the present cycle: British Academy, ESRC (**Chandola** Chaired Round 3 of the ESRC Future Leaders Interview Panel; **Chandola** and Carter are both members of the Strategic Advisory Board), AHRC, Leverhulme Trust, Carnegie Trust, Medical Research Council, Marie Curie, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, ERC and H2020, Institut National du Cancer, Academy of Finland, Research Council of Norway, Arts Council England, Qatar National Research Fund, Health Research Council, Global Challenges Research Fund. **Mason** was ESRC Research Committee Vice-Chair (2012-2015).

#### (iii) Hosting prestigious conferences.

During the present REF cycle we have hosted and/or organised 10 major conferences, including the main annual meetings of:

- British Sociological Association (2017)
- Royal Statistical Society (2016)
- Society for Social Medicine (2017)
- International Network for Social Network Analysis (2015)
- British Society of Gerontology (2018)

- European Sociological Association (2019)

Movements@Manchester has assumed ownership of the annual Alternative Futures and Popular Protest conference and the Mitchell and Morgan Centres have each celebrated anniversaries with their own conferences. Reflecting our commitment to postgraduates, PhD students within the Mitchell Centre have successfully run their own BSA-sponsored events across two consecutive years (on gender and social networks, social theory and social networks).

#### (iv) External Examination and Training

During the current cycle UoA members have externally examined:

- 123 UK PhDs
- 65 overseas PhDs
- 29 Masters programmes (including programmes at LSE, Southampton, Lancaster and Trinity College (Dublin))
- 9 undergraduate programmes (including programmes at St Martins College of Fashion, and the Open University)

The UK Data Service, CMI and the Mitchell and Morgan Centres have provided high quality research methods training to colleagues and research students from a range of disciplines and institutions across the world. Much of this activity has been organised through Manchester's research methods summer school, which enjoys a high profile within social science, both nationally and internationally. UKDS plays a key role in the training of PGR students in data analytics nationally – from October 2017-March 2020, Manchester UKDS UoA members provided 254 live training events to 1,463 PGR students.

#### (v) Honours, Prizes, Fellowships and Awards

Our contribution to the academy and to the discipline is signalled by the various honours, prizes and awards bestowed upon our members. Honours include:

- **Devine** was awarded a CBE for her services to social science (2019)
- **Warde** was awarded an honorary doctorate at the University of Uppsala (2019)
- **Warde** was given the BSA Distinguished Service to British Sociology Award (2019).
- **Warde (2018)**, **Mason (2019)** and **Nazroo (2020)** are elected Fellows of the British Academy, and **Younge** was conferred an Honorary Fellowship in 2020
- **Li** is an elected fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts (2017)
- 17 of our professoriate have been conferred Fellowship of the Academy of Social Science.
- **Younge** has been awarded Honorary Doctorates from University of the Arts, London (2018), Warwick and Mount Holyoke (USA) (2019), and Honorary Fellowship from Cardiff (2017)

UoA members have been awarded four national fellowships and international visiting professorships/fellowships in:

- Australia
- Belgium
- China
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Hong Kong
- India
- Netherlands
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United States

**(vi) Invited Lectures**

Members of the UoA have given 393 UK and 296 overseas invited (expenses paid) conference talks during the current REF cycle, including presentations in North and South America, Asia and both Western and Eastern Europe. Key examples include plenaries and plenary panels at BSA and ASA.

**Contribution to the Economy and Society**

As discussed above in S1 and S3 the UoA has made significant efforts to broaden and deepen the impact, reach and significance of our research in a range of areas, including in advisory roles, research collaborations and partnerships, and media/dissemination. Our contribution is in three main areas:

**(i) Advisory Roles**

UoA members have served on advisory boards for various non-academic (national and international government, commercial and third sector) organisations: e.g.

- Government departments and units including: the House of Lords; Prime Minister's Strategy Unit; Cabinet Office; Work and Pensions; Health and Social Care; International Development; Gender Equalities Office; Social Mobility Commission
- Statistical agencies including: the Office for National Statistics and the UK Census
- Policy bodies including: the Food Standards Agency; Public Health England; the Higher Education Authority; the Ethical Consumer Research Council; Pension Policy Institute and Wellcome Trust
- International Agencies including the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control; European Commission; Eurofound; International Labour Organisation



- the Fawcett Society, Stuart Hall Foundation
- the Victoria and Albert Museum
- Local organisations including Manchester City Council and Age-Friendly Manchester

#### (ii) Research Collaborations and Partnerships

Members of the UoA work closely with a range of third sector organisations, charities and industries both nationally (e.g. Runnymede Trust, Working Families, Business in the Community, Progress Educational Trust, Age-friendly Manchester, Oxfam GB, TESCO, Unilever and Commonword) and internationally (European Network Against Racism, People for Change Foundation, Malta, YES network, Public Health Foundation of India, Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee) to extend the impact of their research. UoA members have worked with: the Cabinet Office, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Manchester City Council, BBC, Arts Council England, Advance HE, Business in the Community, Trades Unions, national archives and museums (including the Imperial War Museum, National Archive, Black Cultural Archive, Victoria and Albert Museum), teachers' unions and schools.

#### (iii) Media and Dissemination

Research within the UoA has attracted a great deal of media attention during this REF cycle. Notable examples include **Pilkington's** work on the English Defence League (The Independent, Manchester Evening News, BBC Radio4, Radio Five Live, The Guardian, The Observer) which led to Pilkington consulting on BBC 3 screenplay ('the Left Behind') which won a 2020 Royal Television Society award. **Bloch's** work on migration has also attracted media attention (Radio Manchester, BBC Radio4, BBC Sunday Politics, ABC news). **Nazroo** and **Joseph-Salisbury** have appeared on Newsnight, and **Nazroo** on BBC World News. **Alexander's** work was featured by Al-Jazeera+. **Fadaee** edited a series of articles in openDemocracy. **Fagan** is an editorial board member for *The Conversation*.

Since his appointment in April 2020, **Younge** has published articles in *The Financial Times*, *The Nation*, *The New Statesman*, *New York Review of Books*. He has appeared in online events/interviews with the BBC (Start the Week), New Economics Foundation, The Sociology Show, Tribune Magazine, and the Stuart Hall Foundation, and been interviewed by leading outlets in Spain (El Mundo, CTXT), Italy (Il Messaggero), Belgium (Der Standaard) and South Africa (New Frame).

#### Concluding Remarks

In sociology at Manchester we pursue a broad, inclusive and dynamic research agenda. We use a range of methodologies, from the highly quantitative to the deeply qualitative, in dialogue with cutting edge theoretical and substantive debates across the social sciences, and other disciplines, to actively engage with the key social issues within the discipline and the wider community.