

Institution: University of Huddersfield
Unit of Assessment: UoA27 English Language and Literature
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>UoA 27 research is situated in the subject area of English and Creative Writing (E&CW). E&CW has 12 permanent staff: 2 professors (Jessica Malay, Heather Clark), 1 Principal Lecturer (Merrick Burrow), 3 Readers (Sarah Falcus, Jodie Matthews, Michael Stewart), and 6 senior lecturers (James Underwood, Todd Borlik, Ildiko Csengei, David Rudrum, Simon Crump, Stephen Ely). 25% of these staff are classified as ECR as defined by para.148 of the REF Guidance for submissions (IR from 1 August 2016) but who for various reasons chose not to declare their individual circumstances. Additionally, E&CW has two full-time Research Fellows attached to a three-year Leverhulme Project Grant (Mary Chadwick and Daniel Patterson), one of whom is classified as ECR as defined above. E&CW has expertise across period specialisms from medieval to contemporary literature, and creative writing expertise in script and screen writing, novels, poetry and sub-genres of these. Since the REF2014 submission, E&CW have added five additional permanent staff, providing additional expertise in Contemporary (post 1945) poetry, creative writing, and the Early Modern Period.</p> <p>E&CW is a constituent subject area of the Department of History, English, Linguistics and Music, one of two departments in the School of Music, Humanities and Media. This disciplinary structure provides opportunities for interdisciplinary research (see Section 3). Several E&CW staff are members of the Centre for History, Culture and Memory. The newly developed Film School is a collaborative initiative across all subject areas in the School. Both contain a strong research component. E&CW is fully engaged with the University of Huddersfield's (UoH) research strategy as stated in the University environment statement and 2018-2025 Strategic Plan. E&CW are fully committed to the UoH Open Research policy, including use of Elsevier Pure management information system which makes freely available eligible research outputs. We publish open access research in the UoH press including our creative writing imprint Grist, and also in open-access journals as discussed below. We are fully compliant with the UoH Open Data policy (See UoH environment Statement Section 2).</p> <p>In REF2014 E&CW was submitted with Language and Linguistics in UoA29. Our success in REF2014 led to the establishment of E&CW as a distinct subject area submitting to UoA27. This focus on Literary and Creative Writing research allowed us to pursue our strategic aims more effectively. These aims, while drawing broadly upon those outlined in the REF2014 UoA29 submission, were revised to reflect the opportunities available to the newly constituted E&CW:</p> <p>A1: Integration of high quality Literary and Creative Writing research within an ambitious public engagement and impact agenda. A2: To build upon existing excellence in interdisciplinary research in response to social challenges. A3: Establishment of The Ted Hughes Network (THN): An international network of scholars and creative writers, producing world leading scholarship and creative practice, with a significant and wide-reaching public engagement agenda.</p> <p><u>A1 reflects the ethos of E&CW—that public engagement and critical and creative research are inextricably linked. We are committed to the principles set out in the Concordat for Public Engagement with Research.</u> And that the dialogue created between these is key to high quality, relevant, humanities research. We recognize that public engagement, when underpinned with critical and creative research, provides a richer cultural environment for communities, contributes to community cohesion, and enriches the lives of individuals. This is shown in our two impact projects: Discovering Ted Hughes Yorkshire and The Brontë Stones Project. For the researcher, public engagement inspires new avenues of research, suggests important research questions, and provides the catalyst that enables researchers to respond to social issues, especially equality, diversity and inclusion.</p>

Matthews's research into representations of Gypsies, Roma or Travellers provides an example of this. Her research underpinned her co-curation of the 'Rights and Romance exhibition' (2018), with the charity Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange and members of the Gypsy community. This co-curation empowered Gypsy and Traveller communities to directly shape public representations of their communities, providing insight about stereotypes and representations of Traveller communities to a wide public audience. This experience informed Matthews's current research on these communities published as 'Visibly Authentic: Images of Romani people from 19th-century culture to the digital age', in *Heritage as Community Research: Legacies of Co-Production* (2019), and led to a research collaboration with the Romani academic Ken Lee, based in Australia. Matthews was also appointed as the Canals and Rivers Trust (CRT) first Honorary Research Fellow (2016). Matthews has given public talks related to the history and literature of the canals and railways and the travelling communities associated with these for the Railway and Canal Historical Society, the National Waterways museum, and other organisations. She was a consultant for an episode of *Grantchester* dealing with Traveller communities, and also consulted for the programme *Who do You Think You Are*. She contributed research expertise to the permanent displays at the National Waterways Museum, Gloucester. Her public engagement work has corrected misconceptions concerning Traveller communities and contributed to Matthews's current research in her forthcoming book: *Industrious: Reading the Waterways*. Most recently the CRT commissioned her to write a report on the canals and nineteenth-century slavery in order to better engage with current concerns.

Falcus's research on Dementia and Literature featured in a partnership with Kirklees Library, West Yorkshire. Two 'Summer Reading Days' in 2014 and 2016 engaged with the theme 'Ageing and Literature', and a public facing symposium 'Words and Pictures: Dementia in Children's Books' (2015), hosted by the UoH. These events encouraged public discussions about how we talk about dementia with children. This partnership made a direct contribution to her joint project 'Ageing and Illness in British and Japanese Children's Picturebooks 1950-2000: Historical and Cross-Cultural perspectives' (2018), in collaboration with Dr Katsura Sako (Keio University, Japan), and funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

Stewart and Crump's practice based creative writing research feeds into a long running partnership with First Story (2011 to present), a charity that places professional writers in secondary schools that serve low-income communities, in order to develop confidence, creativity and writing ability in young people. Stewart is a mentor in this programme and hosted five events (2015-2020) at UoH. A joint project between the UoH and First Story forms part of E&CW's ICS, The Brontë Stones Project.

Ely's work with the creative writing group, Write on Mexborough (2015-present), which he founded and continues to mentor. This group has had a transformative effect on over 100 participants in this area of high economic deprivation. Ely's involvement with the group informs his own creative practice research, and has resulting in the award-winning publication of *Zi Taah: The Song of the Willow Tit*, produced in collaboration with the emerging artist 'PR'.

Malay's research on the seventeenth-century woman writer, the Lady Anne Clifford (an ICS in REF2014) continues to engage the public in conversations regarding the role of women in the construction of communities, through public talks at the Clifford Association General Meeting, Devon (2016); Huddersfield Literature Festival (2018); Leeds Library (2019); Skipton Historical Society (2019); and events hosted by the Churches Conservation Trust (2019). Malay discussed Clifford and culture on BBC Women's Hour (2019) and Channel 5, 'Barging Across Britain, Then and Now', episode 1 (14 Feb 2020). This engagement informed Malay's research resulting in her article: "Becoming Anne Clifford" in *Women and the Land* (2019), and was the focus of her Sassoon Fellowship at the Bodleian Library (2019).

Burrow has shared his research on the Cottingley Fairies controversy in public talks at the Bradford Literature Festival, Tolson Museum, National Science Museum, and his co-curation (with post-grad Hartley) of the exhibition, 'The Cottingley Fairies: A Century of Enchantment',

Brotherton Library, Leeds (2018). He served as a consultant for the public exhibition, 'The Cottingley Fairies' at Nagoya University, Tokyo (2017). The exhibition was a collaboration between the Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, Utsunomiya Fairy Museum, Utsunomiya, Hitotsubashi, and Nagoya Universities, Tokyo. These activities have stimulated Burrow's research concerning the interplay of scientific reason and the fantastic in Arthur Conan Doyle's work and inform his forthcoming article, 'On the trail of the Cottingley Fairies Photographs'.

A2 reflects E&CW's research engagement across interdisciplinary boundaries, demonstrating E&CW's ability to respond to emerging social challenges. Borlik's research engages with agrarian and environmental history, providing perspectives on the current ecological crisis. Borlik is one of three principal investigators of the Earth, Sea, Sky: An Environmental Humanities Research Network project, funded by The Oxford Research Centre for the Humanities International Partnership, the University of California Davis, and other organisations. Borlik produced thirteen journal articles and two books including *Literature and Nature in the English Renaissance* (Cambridge, 2019) through these international and interdisciplinary partnerships.

Falcus's research brings together health or medical humanities and English Literature as evidenced by her monograph *Contemporary Narratives of Dementia* (Routledge, 2018). She is co-founder and co-director of The Dementia and Cultural Narrative Network that includes literary and film studies, anthropology, sociology, gerontology the creative arts, and practitioners working with dementia patients. Falcus and Raquel Medina of Aston University co-organized the symposium 'Working Together: collaboration beyond the academy in research in dementia and culture' hosted by the Institute of Modern Languages Research, Senate House, London (2018).

Clark's work on Sylvia Plath draws on the history of mid-twentieth-century American psychiatry, and she integrates research from the McLean Hospital archives and interviews with psychiatrists in the Boston area to explore the treatment Plath received. Her interdisciplinary research concludes that Plath found herself at the mercy of an unenlightened mental health industry. This research appears in Clark's major biography of Plath, *Red Comet: The Short Life and Blazing Art of Sylvia Plath* (Knopf, 2020).

Malay's research on women's writing and domestic abuse, published in *The Case of Mistress Mary Hampson* (2014), draws on archival research, legal discourse, cultural and historical sources related to domestic relations, and autobiography. It exposes the historical basis of current issues surrounding domestic abuse and the cultural mechanisms which underpin this ongoing social issue. This research intersects with Malay's work on autobiography that draws upon legal history, court documents, and concepts of the autobiographical which underpins her current Leverhulme Project Grant (£335,595), *Autobiographical Acts*.

Burrow's research on Conan Doyle for his forthcoming monograph, *History of Deception* situates Doyle's literary and spiritualist writings within a wider culture of 'rational enchantment' that rose to prominence during the 1840s (comprising such diverse cultural forms as photography, scientific entertainments, spiritualism, stage magic, newspaper hoaxes, automata and detective fiction). Burrow's research uses this historical perspective to illuminate the blurring of fact and fabrication in twenty first-century controversies concerning fake news, climate change denial, anti-vaxxers, social media bubbles and artificial intelligence.

Ely's current creative writing project draws upon the life cycle of the eel, and engages with scientific disciplines related to eels, fisheries, river management and rewilding. He works with experts in ecology at Yorkshire Wildlife Trust; the University of Southampton; the project Ark Netherlands involved in a rewilding project on the Rhine in Holland; the Yorkshire Environment Agency; and the Marine and Freshwater Conservation Programme at the Zoological Society of London. The aim of this creative practice research is to produce scientifically informed writing about nature that departs from traditional pastoral writing and engages more robustly with concepts of the Anthropocene.

Research undertaken by E&CW is fundamentally interdisciplinary and sits at the cutting edge of literary scholarship, contributing in important way to crucial societal debates.

A3: The establishment of E&CW (to be submitted to UoA27, REF2021) in 2014 provided an opportunity to develop a flagship area of research and impact expertise. The UoH Research Fund provided an initial grant and follow up funding of more than £250,000 for the establishment of the Ted Hughes Network (THN). This funding provided a two-year research post, that became a permanent senior lectureship post (Underwood) and a 0.4 salary upgrade to enable Ely to take up the role of Director of the THN was funded. The University, through its Research Excellence Scheme, funded the appointment of Professor Heather Clark, a U.S. scholar and Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes expert from the United States. The University also provided financial support for the development of the Ted Hughes Small Press Archive, one of the most extensive collections of Hughes's small press related material in the world. This facilitated the deposit of two private Hughes collections, the Crossley collection—Hughes related material collected by Donald Crossley, life-long friend of Hughes; and the Christopher Reid archive, made up of material connected to the publication of Hughes's Letters by Faber and Faber (2007).

The THN hosted a number of public events showcasing Hughes's work through the archive collections that encouraged the public to view and use the material. The THN also supported two public exhibitions at Heritage Quay curated by UoH students through their Public Humanities Project: 'Ted Hughes: You Are Who You Choose To Be' (2018); and 'Larkin and Hughes: Poets and Rivals' (2019). This last student-curated project, undertaken in collaboration with the THN and the Larkin Society, hosted the launch of the Huddersfield Literature Festival 2019.

The THN was designed to work in partnership with local, national and international academic and public organisations. The THN successfully brought together in a consortium community groups and civic bodies across Yorkshire, including the Elmet Trust; The Ted Hughes Project, South Yorkshire; Calderdale Council; Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council; Hebden Royd Town Council; and the Patrington Parish Council which integrates Hughes Research with public engagement and impact activities (and forms one of our ICS). The THN was instrumental in bringing the premier of Hughes's Gaudete, adapted and performed by the French theatre company, OBRA, to the Lawrence Batley theatre, Huddersfield (2017).

The THN has driven international research related to Hughes and his contemporaries. In partnership with the Ted Hughes Society, the THN co-sponsored the international conference Ted Hughes & Place (2017), featuring twenty-six scholars from around the world including the keynote speakers: Professor Heather Clark and Professor Neil Roberts. Underwood edited an open access and online special edition of the Ted Hughes Journal featuring key papers from this conference, Time and Place 7.1 (2018). The THN organized a symposium in partnership with the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University, U.S.A., 'Ted Hughes and America' that included a programme of invited international scholars and a public lecture, convened by Professor Heather Clark, for (May 2020). This symposium has been postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis, but the partnership with the Rose Library and scholars involved in the symposium are moving ahead to publish papers prepared for this symposium and to convene future meetings. The THN is now established as a world-leading research and public engagement organization, that has created a synergy between cultural impact and high-quality research.

In 2017 the subject area ranked 251 in QS World University Subject Rankings.

Having achieved our REF2014 goals as revised, E&CW have developed a further set of strategic aims to underpin our work leading into the next REF:

A1 Address social challenges by developing further partnerships with First Story, Canal and River Trust, and a new partnership with the Peak District National Park following initial discussions with this organisation, thus embedding world leading research in an ambitious public engagement agenda.

A2 Development of the recently instituted Centre for International Contemporary Poetry to create an internationally leading research centre that integrates critical research with innovative creative practice, and public engagement.

A3 Develop dynamic interdisciplinary research partnerships to address key social issues in the areas of ageing and dementia; the environmental crisis; and gender inequality.

A4 Establish the Brontë Network, drawing on expertise developed through the establishment of the THN, and current relationships with the Brontë Parsonage, Bradford and Huddersfield Literary Festivals, Brontë Society, Bradford Council and the Birthplace at Thornton. And to extend these Brontë-themed relationships to the Peak District National Park and the Hathersage Parish Council in order to facilitate public engagement and community development projects drawing upon the areas' largely untapped connections with the Brontës.

2. People

The creation of E&CW as a distinct subject area focusing on Literary and Creative Writing research in 2014, provided an opportunity to build a team that produces high quality, interdisciplinary research and an ambitious Impact through Public Engagement agenda.

The appointment of Borlik, an American researcher (2014), was part of an international recruitment process designed to provide additional, world leading Early Modern Literature and Culture research, and to extend this into ecocritical research. The appointment of Ely (2015), an award-winning poet and Hughes scholar, was tied to our goal of increasing our expertise in creative writing, while his early research into Hughes contributed to the establishment of the THN. Matthews was appointed to a lectureship in English (2016) because of her expertise in public engagement, grant writing, and her high quality inter-disciplinary research. Underwood was initially appointed (2016) to a two-year research post, but was promoted within this period to a permanent senior lectureship post. His initial appointment and promotion were connected to the expertise he contributed to the THN, his grant capture, and his expertise in Philip Larkin, which was relevant to our intention to build the Centre for International Contemporary Poetry (CICP). In 2017 the University appointed Clark as part of UoH Research Excellence Staff Strategy. Clark's world-leading expertise in Sylvia Plath, Seamus Heaney and the Irish Poets, the Boston women poets and Contemporary poetry more generally was the capstone of this series of appointments and, was part of our strategy to broaden our expertise and visibility with the CICP, with Clark taking the lead on the design of the new centre.

In 2019 Chadwick and Patterson were appointed as part of the Leverhulme funded, three-year project grant, Autobiographical Acts (PI Malay). Their appointments contribute to interdisciplinary research within E&CW, with their research intersecting the fields of History and Literature.

Support for researcher development:

UoH is committed to Vitae's Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, and participates in Vitae's 'Every Researcher Counts'. UoH and the School of MHM both hold Athena Swan Bronze awards. E&CW staff work as a team to ensure that staff and student research development and support is integral to all that we do and is embedded across the career span of individuals within E&CW, from undergraduate to professor.

We have a research strand across our three-year undergraduate programme which introduces apprentice researchers to research methodologies and ethics, and enables them to experience professional level research and produce high quality independent research from year 1.

Undergraduates are offered placements on academic research projects including the MHRA funded Anne Clifford Project (PI Malay), the Leverhulme funded Autobiographical Acts Project (PI Malay), the Arts Council funded Brontë Stones Project (PI Stewart), the Cottingley Fairies project (PI Burrow). Undergraduates have also been heavily involved in our in-house imprint, Grist (Editor Stewart), the activities of the Ted Hughes Network (Director Ely), and the Dementia

Network (PI Falcus), and the COSMIA Festival (Director Falcus). These experiences have built confidence and provided undergraduate students—many of whom are first generation in higher education and are from local areas of high economic deprivation—with avenues for post-graduate research.

Post Graduate Recruitment and Support:

E&CW seeks to retain these high quality UoH undergraduate researchers through recruitment to our MA by Research programme as part of our broader PGR success strategy, with on average three per annum MA by Research students continuing on to the PhD programme. These PGRs underpin the supportive and dynamic PGR research environment in E&CW, undertaking leadership roles in our Research Seminar series and annual PGR conference. E&CW bi-weekly research seminars regularly bring together academic staff, postgraduate, undergraduate students and interested members of the public and feature both PGR and International academic research in Literature and Creative Writing.

This continuity from undergraduate to PGR research provides a sense of community which is attractive to UK and international PGRs. One of the hallmarks of our PGR culture is the close-knit research community that attracts applicants to our PGR programmes.

PGR recruitment to our MA by Research and PhDs is also supported through UoH's competitive studentships, fee-waiver scholarships, and bursary schemes. 41 PGRs (19 PhD and 22 MA by Research) have successfully completed their degrees with this financial support. For example, Dr Sairish Hussain received fee waiver scholarships for her MA and her PhD in Creative Writing. Her novel, published from creative research undertaken at the UoH, was shortlisted for the 2021 Costa Prize in the First Novel category. Another PhD completion recently secured an academic job at the University of Newcastle. Several successful MA by Research students have gone on to full PhD studentships at University of Leeds, Hull, Sheffield, York and elsewhere. Others have entered PGCE and Teacher Training programmes, or are now working in the Creative Industries.

In addition, as part of our outreach to the Further Education Community, we have awarded four Bridge Fellowships, which provide full-tuition scholarships for an MA by Research to A-Level and College English Literature teachers who work in local schools and colleges in areas of high economic deprivation. This programme both supports teachers and enhances the student experience in these areas. E&CW participate in NECAH (The North of England Consortium for Arts and Humanities) and the Heritage Consortium. Five PGRs supervised by E&CW staff (Borlik, Malay, Falcus, and Rudrum) have successfully completed PhDs through these Consortiums in the past three years.

All these PGR pathways widen participation and provide significant growth and vitality to the E&CW research community.

Strong support for students is built in to our PGR programmes. E&CW PGRs attend ten Research Practice Seminars in research skill development. E&CW partners with History to run Graduate Academy providing additional seminars on preparing and publishing research, applying for post-doctoral fellowships, career development, etc. Records of supervisions are kept by both students and supervisors in SkillsForge. PhDs take part in Progression Review Boards the end of year 1 and year 2, where constructive feedback is provided and a skills audit takes place, identifying training needs. In 2019 all E&CW PGRs progressed or completed on time. PhD's are eligible for up to £2800 in support to attend conferences and undertake research trips. PGRs are provided with opportunities to teach, initially co-teaching with experienced staff, and may enrol in the UoH's Teaching Assistant Preparation Programme course. PGRs are mentored in their professional development and are provided opportunities to co-publish, co-present at conferences, and co-curate exhibitions with staff. Postgraduates have been heavily involved in the UoH COSMIA Arts Festival, events sponsored by the Ted Hughes Network, Creative Writing events including participation in the Huddersfield and Bradford Literature Festivals, editing and production of publications through the GRIST imprint and other

opportunities. All PGRs are members of the University's Graduate School, and may participate in the UoH's Graduate Conference, Graduate Council, and make use of UoH's Career Guidance centre, well-being programmes and services, and Enterprise and Business building support.

E&CW's PGR recruitment and support strategy has successfully increased our PGR community, and supported a robust research environment. In our UoA29 REF2014 submission, E&CW contributed only two PhD and one MA by Research completions. In the REF2021 period (2014-2020) E&CW have made 28 PhD awards, and 44 MA by Research awards in Literature or Creative Writing (and a further six are in the examination process). This significant increase is a direct result of our research environment and recruitment strategy during this REF cycle. It is important to note that many of these PGRs come from local areas that rate high on the UK index of multiple deprivations and are first generation PGR students. E&CW has been particularly successful in attracting BAME students to our PGR programmes who make up 20% of our MA completions, 33% of whom continued to complete a PhD, well above the national average.

Academic Staff Research Support

In E&CW staff support is underpinned by our commitment to a research environment where researchers thrive and produce world-leading research. All staff retain autonomy over their research objectives, while at the same time contribute research expertise to team research initiatives. This dual focus on individual research, and whole team collaboration that integrates staff at all career stages (as well as undergraduate and PGRs as discussed above), is key to the success of both individual research and E&CW team initiatives. These team initiatives include the development of a Public Engagement strategy that led to the collaborations that produced the THN and the Brontë Stones projects. All staff participate in our research mentorship programme, which resulted in strong participation of early career staff, as described in Section 1, in the present REF cycle. These early career staff contributed 26% of EC&W outputs, and led one Impact Case Study submitted for REF2021. All staff participate in an annual research audit with the E&CW Research Coordinator and the School's Associate Dean for Research where individualized research goals and contributions to E&CW initiatives are agreed, and training and financial support identified.

E&CW provides staff with ample research time and opportunities. All full-time academic and research staff have one research day per week free of teaching and administrative commitments and up to 30 days of additional research leave per annum. Staff on fractional contracts have a pro-rata allowance. Our innovative delivery of teaching is efficient and encourages staff to integrate current research into seminars and lectures. Our teaching programme places assessment and skills teaching within modules, while subject matter is set within units which explore literature through seminars and lectures. Units can be updated, and new units designed and inserted into the teaching programme in a timely manner enabling staff to respond to student interests and their current research. For example, in 2018 students asked for a unit on Asian Women's writing. Matthew's drew on her expertise in this area to design this unit and it was offered in 2019/20.

Staff may apply for a one term sabbatical, free of all teaching and administrative duties (except post-graduate supervision), after every six teaching terms (i.e. once every three years). The School of Music Humanities and Media also funds Impact Case Study sabbaticals for staff involved in the subject area ICS.

E&CW supports staff with caring responsibilities, part-time contracts, and those returning from periods of leave (for example, parental leave). Those who take periods of leave retain their place on the sabbatical schedule. Flexible working is the norm within E&CW with individual circumstances addressed in research audits and appraisals and through discussions with the Head of Subject and Research Coordinator. For example, staff are supported through the clustering of teaching responsibilities to free up time early and/or later in the day (Matthew, Borlik, Falcus), and teaching has been arranged on three days to accommodate caring responsibilities or travel issues (Rudrum, Csengei, Crump, Falcus, Stewart). Accommodation has been made for remote working (Chadwick, Patterson, Malay, and Clark prior to COVID-19,

and all since 23 March 2020). Sabbaticals have been brought forward or delayed as best suited the needs of individual staff (Csengei, Borlik, Falcus), and additional shorter periods of research leave, and teaching relief has been provided to support research goals. The school funds COVID-19 mitigation relief for staff on sabbaticals scheduled in 2020, providing up to six additional weeks research leave.

Financial support for research is available to all academic staff in E&CW. The University of Huddersfield devolves the majority of QR funding to the schools, and each UoA has direct control of a portion of that funding. This has enabled E&CW to fund UK and International conference attendance, research trips, publication costs, and other research related costs. School level QR funds are also available to develop 'proof of concept' projects.

Funding is also available through the University Research Fund (URF). Malay and Falcus secured funding to host two international conferences in the UK: Dementia and Cultural Narrative conference, University of Aston, December 2017 (Falcus); Anne Clifford: Engagements in Culture, Abbot Hall Gallery, Kendal, 2018 (Malay). The URF provided funding for the international symposium, 'Ted Hughes and America: A Symposium', (scheduled for May 2020, now postponed to 2022) at the Rose Library, Emory University, Atlanta, USA. Ten staff have received support for international conference attendance from the URF. Underwood and Ely have also received additional funds for their research projects from as part of the URF's Early career staff initiative. Clark received £11,000 to build an international partnership of scholars researching Contemporary Irish Poets. The University's commitment to provide additional research funding to staff at all career stages, with particular emphasis on early career support, has enabled staff to pursue world-leading research agenda. Five staff (Borlik, Csengei, Ely, Falcus, Burrow, Matthews) also received additional teaching relief to produce research outputs through a URF grant awarded to the School to promote internationally excellent research (2017-2019).

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Staff promotion profiles and career development pathways also attest to the vitality of E&CW and its commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Underwood and Ely were promoted to Senior Lecturer within one year of appointment. 30% of staff (3 female, 1 male) have been promoted through UoH's conferment process (2014-2020): Professorship: Malay; Readerships: Falcus, Stewart, Matthews. UoH and the School of MHM both hold Athena Swan Bronze awards.

An Output Pool Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken for REF2021 with the current output selections showing contributions of: 50% female; 50% male. Early career researchers have contributed 30% of outputs as well producing one of the ICS for this UoA. Staff with caring responsibilities (for children under 10) contributed 43% of outputs.

The structure of the UOA, and the mechanisms embedded within it, ensure staff are supported in their career development in line with individual circumstances. This ensures sustainability and fosters well-being. It directly contributes to E&CW's international reputation for research excellence as evidenced by a range of publications with high ranking journals and publishers, international collaborations, keynote invitations, and other indicators of research vitality.

UoH was awarded the [Workplace Wellbeing Charter](#) in December 2018, and reaccredited in 2020.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Income:

Over the current REF cycle we have secured £373,704 HESA recorded external funding, with a spend in this REF period of £113,511. Underwood was awarded a British Academy Rising Star

Award for the project 'Literature and the Reading Public: Challenges and Opportunities' £9,000 (EN160009, spend £5189). Matthews received AHRC funding, £1,000 (AH/J011606/1) for her project 'Gypsies, Roma and Irish Travellers: Histories, Perceptions and Representations, A Review' and an AHRC 10th Anniversary Debates grant of £10,308, for 'Rethinking the Nation' (AAM000116). Malay secured a MHRA Research Fellow Grant of £23,000 for the 'Anne Clifford Project' (R00038-01); and a £335,595 Leverhulme Project Grant for 'Autobiographical Acts in 17th-century England, Scotland, Wales and New England' (RPG-2018-370).

In addition, staff in the UOA have also secured funding from a range of Arts Council, charity, HE institutions and local councils. Arts Council funding: Stewart, Brontë Stones Project £28,000; Ely, Write on Mexborough and activities of the Ted Hughes Project, South Yorkshire, over £100,000 (2016-2019); Falcus, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Ageing and Illness in British and Japanese Children's Picturebooks 1950-2000: Historical and Cross-Cultural perspectives, £64,000; Malay, Chadwick, and Patterson Bodleian Library fellowships: £3,600(x2), £4,800(x1) equalling £12,000; Ely, Rose Library fellowship, Emory University, Atlanta, £1,000; Borlik, £2,406, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities, £3,350 the John Fell Fund, Oxford, and \$15,000, University of California Research Institute for the Humanities for the Environmental Humanities Research Network.

E&CW has also received many small grants for impact and public engagement projects from local councils including Kirklees Council, Hebden Royd Council, Calderdale Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Pattrington Parish Council, and Bradford Council.

This income from the Arts Council, charities, local councils and organizations, and HE institutions provided E&CW with more than £250,000 for research and public engagement activities (2014-2020). This attention to a wider body of funders assures the sustainability and development of our research agenda.

E&CW research grant strategy includes research grant application mentoring, individualized grant application strategy, workshops facilitated by UoH Research and Enterprise, funding for attendance at funding body workshops and sessions, peer review, increasing staff participation as peer reviewers, increasing our presence on grant funding bodies. E&CW and the School (MHM) provide funding for pilot 'proof of concept' projects and funding to develop large grant applications, with particular focus on supporting early career researchers. UoH holds Global Challenges - University Sandpit events annually, which funded Csengei's Narrative of War pilot project. UoH employs a Research Development manager as well as pre and post award officers to assist in the application and management of research grants.

Infrastructure and research facilities:

The organisational structure of E&CW is based on our understanding that while staff research is most often grounded in period or genre specific expertise, staff share skills and methodology that can be shared across E&CW. Creative Writing techniques and the insights related to practice-based research contribute to research in autobiography, eco-criticism, and other areas. Particular skills and expertise are shared throughout the subject area: grant writing (Malay, Matthews, Underwood), external partnerships initiatives (Stewart, Crump, Matthews, Ely, Burrow), Public Humanities (Rudrum, Underwood), international research networking (Clark, Malay, Falcus, Borlik, Csengei). Several staff have expertise working in television and radio, as well as other public media (Clark, Stewart, Ely, Matthews, Malay, Burrow), and expertise in archival and museum work (Burrow, Csengei, Malay, Matthews, Chadwick, Patterson, Borlik). This matrix of skills and methodologies are key components of the infrastructure that supports research design, contributing to E&CW's world-leading research and impact through public engagement.

E&CW is housed in the new (2017) Oastler Building, on the main UoH Campus, shortlisted for the Guardian HE Award for Outstanding Building (2019). It features collaborative learning rooms, staff offices and meeting spaces. It also includes a large and well-resourced PGR space, with

individual work stations, networked PCs, lockers, a bespoke kitchen, photocopy facilities, and social spaces. The library is situated in an adjacent building.

The University of Huddersfield's archive, Heritage Quay (HQ, opened in 2014) is an Accredited Archive Service (by The National Archives). It includes PD5454 compliant collections storage and display, only the 2nd repository in the UK to meet these standards. It has 3 full-time, professionally-accredited staff (ARA and HEA) that support teaching & learning, research, and public engagement. They provide professional advice on funding applications and research development. The industry leading collections storage space has been instrumental in securing the Ted Hughes Crossley Papers (2016); the Christopher Reid Ted Hughes archive (2018); and the Sir Patrick Stewart Star Trek Archive (2020). HQ has a bespoke 146 square meter exhibition space and an 84 square meter group space with large interactive screen. E&CW, in collaboration with student curators through our Public Humanities module, have used this space to produce two well-reviewed exhibitions (see section 1). The space hosts symposia, conferences and public events, which facilitates the use of the archive collections. HQ is approved by the Arts Council National Security Advisor to apply for loans from National Libraries and Museums. This facilitated the loan of a number of items, including those loaned by the Philip Larkin Society, for the 'Larkin and Hughes: Poets and Rivals', exhibition (2019), an exhibition of Anne Clifford's Great Books of Record, loaned by the Cumbria Archive Service (2015), and items from the Brontë Parsonage Museum (2020). This space has proved particularly useful for engaging the public with Ted Hughes's small press work, and has included a children's poetry and print making workshop (2017), the COSMIA Festival (Science Fiction and Fantasy, 2015-2019) and other public interactive activities. The archive reading room is available for all researchers and welcomes especially those members of the public who may not have experienced archival research, providing workshops and one to one guidance. The expertise of the HQ staff contributes to public engagement. They host and facilitate Public Impact and Engagement (PIE) Club, an informal network of UoH staff and PGRs working with the general public. The School employs a full-time impact and public engagement officer.

The University Library subscribes to an extensive range of major online journal packages (ScienceDirect, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, Project Muse, OUP, etc.), as well as subject specific digital collections including JISC Historic Books, EEBO and ECCO, British and Nineteenth century periodical collections, and State Papers Online. We have a dedicated Subject and academic librarian for E&CW. The Library contributes to a programme of skills development sessions for PGRs throughout their studies.

E&CW also benefits from the University of Huddersfield Press, which utilizes the Janeway publishing platform, providing open access to all their publications. The Press works closely with the Open Library of Humanities. The E&CW creative writing imprint Grist, (see section 1) has published three anthologies and three single author works, focusing on emerging voices in creative writing. UoH Press also published Stewart's Boiled Milk: Anne Brontë's Final Journey (2020). All eligible E&CW outputs are available via the UoH Research Repository & Portal (PURE) (see Section 1).

The geographical location of Huddersfield, with its connection to the Brontës, Contemporary poets such as Larkin, Hughes and Plath, and possibilities for ecocritical and creative research within the landscape, has contributed to our REF2021 Impact Case Studies, and continues to provide a rich resource for the building of future research, and community and industry partnerships. These include our developing relationship with the Bronte Parsonage Museum, and the Bronte Birthplace Trust and the Peak District National Park regarding opportunities for partnering on a creative writing programme and the development of literary cultural heritage opportunities in the area.

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

The Research Ethos of E&CW is underpinned by two principles: Staff research autonomy and (often international) research collaboration. E&CW recognizes that world-leading research by individuals creates synergies that form networks of collaborators able to make important contributions to local, national and international communities.

International Research Collaborations and Networks:

All staff are engaged with international collaborations, networks and collaborative projects.

The Ted Hughes Network (Underwood, Ely, Rudrum, Clark), as describe in section 1, has developed a number of international collaborations.

Clark began her relationship with E&CW as a Visiting Research Scholar and Biography Fellow. She continues as a member at the Leon Levy Center for Biography, City University of New York, and is a member of the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing, Wolfson College, Oxford University. Her new biography of Sylvia Plath, *Red Comet* has been listed as a best book in 2020 by media in the U.S. and the U.K., including The New York Times, The Guardian, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, and Oprah Magazine. Clark is a leading international biographer, who will be pivotal in the development of the Auto/Biographical strand of research in E&CW going into the next REF period.

Borlik is one of the of the principle investigators of the international Earth, Sea, Sky: An Environmental Humanities Research Network, in collaboration with The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities; the Universities of Huddersfield (UK), Vancouver (Canada), and Davis (California). This network examines often contested premodern approaches to the natural world and explores how the premodern archive can contribute to contemporary environmental concerns. The project also collaborates with Oecologies, a Humanities research cluster of scholars supported by the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University (Canada). Dissemination of Research is through conferences and symposia in Europe and North America, as well as high quality research publications.

Falcus is Primary Collaborator on the project Ageing, Illness, Care in Literary and Cultural Narrative in collaboration with Keio University, Tokyo, Japan. This project is funded through the Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Falcus is also co-director and co-founder of the International Dementia and Cultural Narrative Network. This network crosses disciplinary boundaries bringing humanities scholars into dialogue with healthcare professionals, dementia support organisations, families and carers, and people with dementia. It holds international conferences and symposia and provides a unique research model for exploring this pressing social issue.

Malay is a member of Gender Place and Memory 1400-1900, a research network sited at the University of Hull. She works with scholars in Canada, the US, and Europe exploring the social construction of gender and the lives of women in the Early Modern period and the continued relevance of this research for ongoing gender issues today, including domestic violence, property rights and income inequality, social constructions of gender. She has published widely in this area in collaboration with international scholars and has been invited and organized panels on this subject at major international conferences, many of these under the auspices of the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women.

Staff in E&CW have presented over 90 papers at international conferences since 2014, many of these involved organizing panels with international participants. Plenary papers include: Matthews, 'Brindley 300 conference', National Waterways Museum, Ellesmere Port (2016) and the Cyprus English Studies Association conference, Nicosia (2019); Borlik, The Representation of Natural Disasters in Early Modern Literature Conference, University of Clermont-Ferrand, France (2020); Rudrum, American Textures/American Contrasts conference, National & Kapodistrian University, Athens, Greece (2014) and the Literature and Contemporary Philosophy Conference, University of Basel, Switzerland (2016); Falcus, New Historical Perspectives on Ageing and the Life Course Conference, University of Leeds (2018).

Industry Partnerships (Arts and Heritage, Local Councils):

E&CW works closely with a number of industry partners in relationships that have impact on communities and inform our research. One of our longest standing relationships is with the [Huddersfield Literature Festival](#). This annual festival was established by English at the UoH in 2006. The Festival became a not-for-profit organisation in 2013, but retains a close relationship with E&CW. It welcomes 150 performers and audiences of around 4,000, including major international writers, for example Jodi Picoult, Lemn Sissay, Irvine Welsh, Kate Atkinson, and Ian Rankin. Crump sits on the steering committee, and many E&CW staff (Crump, Stewart, Ely, Underwood, Malay, Matthews, Rudrum, Burrow, Falcus) have featured in the programme. The UoH provides extensive support in kind. UG and PGR students gain experience through volunteering in a number of roles. This award-winning festival (Best Literature Festival 2018 in the Yorkshire & the Humber Enterprise Awards 2018, Examiner Community Award for Arts 2017) brings recognition, cultural opportunities and tourism to the wider Huddersfield area.

Another important festival, Sci Fest was established by Burrow and Falcus in collaboration with Kirklees Libraries, [Kirklees Council](#) and the UoH in 2015. The festival's remit was to engage the public in contemporary science and speculative fiction and film. This has now developed into the [COSMIA Festival](#), a collaboration with the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Kirklees Library, Kirklees Council, The Media Centre Huddersfield, the Huddersfield Literature Festival and the UoH. Falcus remains on the steering committee. Falcus and other E&CW staff and post-grads participate in the planning and delivery of this Festival. In 2019 the COSMIA festival exhibited material from the Sir Patrick Stewart Archives. This archive has now been deposited in the UoH archive, Heritage Quay and is available for public viewing and academic use.

E&CW's founding of the Ted Hughes Consortium through the work of the THN as discussed above, contributes to the UOA's impact project 'Discovering Ted Hughes's Yorkshire'. Beyond the public engagement and impact detailed in that case study, the THN contributes widely to public engagement activities with members' partners: Elmet Trust; The Ted Hughes Project, South Yorkshire (THP(SY)); Calderdale Council (CC); Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC); and Hebden Royd Town Council (HRTC). Ely has served as Director of THP(SY), which holds community events throughout the year and an annual conference featuring major writers, bringing much needed attention and tourism to the area. Underwood and Rudrum sit on the governing body of the Elmet Trust, Mytholmroyd, which celebrates the work of Ted Hughes and also maintains the Hughes Birthplace. They have contributed research expertise to the Trust projects, including their annual Ted Hughes Festival. The Trust credits the work of E&CW, through the establishing of the Ted Hughes Consortium, with their ability to meet their obligations under the Charity Act.

E&CW staff Stewart and Crump have been involved with the writing charity First Story since 2011. First Story events are hosted at the UoH. They have worked with eighteen secondary schools from the surrounding area including Buttershaw Business & Enterprise College (Bradford) and Brigshaw High School (Castleford). First Story collaborated with Stewart on activities featured in the UOA's impact case study, 'The Brontë Stones Project: Connecting Communities with the Landscape through Literature', engaging with six Bradford area schools.

E&CW staff are involved in relationships with a number of other heritage and culture organizations. Malay works with the Churches Conservation Trust, participating in fund-raising events, leading tours, giving talks to support the work of this trust, based on her research on the Lady Anne Clifford and early modern women. Matthews serves on the advisory board for the Arts Council-funded 'I Dig Canals' project run by Alarum Theatre (about women involved in canal restoration after WW2) and the Canals and Rivers Trust. As Honorary Research Fellow, she provides research expertise that underpins many of the Trust's projects, gives public lectures, is featured in media promoting the Trust, is involved with planning and other activities of the Trust. Most recently she was commissioned to write a report on the Canals and its connections to slavery as the Trust responds to the canals' relationship to nineteenth century slavery. Stewart, drawing on his critical and creative practice research on the Brontës, is featured in the Brontë

Parsonage Museum's annual programme of events and contributes expertise to the development of their programme.

E&CW's relationship with the Bradford Literature Festival, a major international and award-winning literary festival, is ongoing with Stewart, Matthews and Burrow featured in annual programmes.

Finally, E&CW established (in 2017) the J.B. Priestley lecture series, in collaboration with the J.B. Priestley estate, which features an eminent figure in contemporary literature. Previous speakers include the writer Will Self and the director Sally Wainwright.

Service to UK and International Scholarship

E&CW staff serve as peer-reviewers for a number of international journals related to Literary Studies including the International Journal of Welsh Writing in English (Chadwick); LSE Review of Books (Matthews); Eighteenth Century Fiction; Women's Writing, European Romantic Review (Csengei); Shakespeare: Journal of British Shakespeare Association, Literature Interpretation Theory, Criticism, (Borlik); Early Modern Literary Studies (Malay, Borlik); Contemporary Women's Writing; Literature Interpretation Theory (Falcus); English Studies (Underwood) PMLA, Textual Practice (Rudrum).

E&CW staff also peer review for interdisciplinary journals including those related to history, sociology, gender and culture more widely, and journals exploring the relationship between science and the humanities. These include: Culture and History, History and Anthropology, Current Issues in Language Planning, Journal of Marine and Island Cultures (Matthews); Humanities (Clark); Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation (Csengei); Victorian Review, Mosaic (Burrow); Early Modern Women, Clio, Early Modern Society Journal (Malay, Borlik); Journal of Age Culture and Humanities, Societies; The Gerontologist; RIDE; Medical Humanities (BMJ) (Falcus). International Journal of Heritage Studies, Culture and History, History and Anthropology, Current Issues in Language Planning, Journal of Marine and Island Cultures (Matthews); a/b: Auto/Biography Studies and American Studies (Underwood); Angelaki, Synthesis, Humanities, Journal of Philosophy of Education (Rudrum).

E&CW staff served as editors of special editions: European Journal of English Studies (22.1), 2018 (Falcus); Ted Hughes Journal (7.1), 2018 (Underwood). Rudrum is on the Editorial Board of Synthesis.

E&CW staff regularly peer-review for book publishers, including: Manchester University Press (Malay); Palgrave Macmillan (Burrow, Rudrum); Blackwells (Burrow); Routledge (Falcus, Borlik, Rudrum, Clark), Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Continuum/Bloomsbury Press, University of Toronto Press (Borlik, Rudrum); Louisiana State University Press, Rowman & Littlefield (Clark).

E&CW staff are peer reviewers for funding bodies including: Leon Levy Center for Biography, Graduate Center, New York (Clark), the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities (Clark), AHRC (Mathews, Borlik), Carnegie Trust (Scotland) (Matthews), ESRC (Matthews), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (Borlik), Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (Borlik), PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Grants, USA (Borlik).

E&CW staff act as external examiners for PhDs during this REF period in the UK including University of Birmingham, Bristol University, Kingston University, Bath Spa, University of Portsmouth, Nottingham Trent University, Manchester Metropolitan University, and University of Edinburgh; and Internationally at: University of Lleida, Spain; Adelaide University, Australia; University of Queensland, Australia.