

Unit-level environment template (REF5b)

Institution: Durham University
Unit of assessment: 27, English Language and Literature
Section 1: Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy
Context and Structure
Research in the Department of English Studies is distinguished by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical, linguistic and generic range, with substantial depth in each of: medieval and early modern studies, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature, modernisms and post-Second World War literary cultures, critical theory and world literatures• Leadership in interdisciplinary methods and fields, notably cognitive and medical humanities, cross-period initiatives and intellectual history• Particular attention to theory, poetics, archival sources and editorial practice• Integration of applied research and practice, notably in medieval and Renaissance drama, contemporary poetry, creative writing, modernism and medical humanities.
English Studies is one of seven departments in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. At 31 July 2020, it comprised 55 REF-eligible staff (48.81 FTE) including two postdoctoral researchers, and 50 registered PhD students. Substantial University investment has increased permanent staff numbers by 57% (from 35 in REF 2014). Dedicated administrators in the Faculty and in Research and Innovation Services assist with grant applications, research administration and PhD administration. Research is overseen by a Research Committee, led by the Director of Research alongside deputies for impact and grants and ethics. PGR co-directors oversee postgraduate research. Research Committee liaises with the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion committee and reports to the Board of Studies (all staff members) and Faculty and University committees.
The vitality of the department's research environment is rooted in its range and depth, chronologically, geographically and methodologically, within which there is significant thematic intersection. It is founded on an ethos of collaboration: in building period bases, promoting cross-period initiatives, developing innovative interdisciplinary methods, working with external partners, enabling creative and risk-taking research and extending the discipline of English studies. Commitment to international excellence is balanced by regional commitment. Six primary areas of research describe existing strengths and strategic direction. They are closely linked to University Centres, Institutes and wider networks. This structure nurtures long-standing areas of excellence while foregrounding trans-historical expertise and emerging strengths and enabling interdisciplinary research within and across clusters of researchers. Regular research seminars with invited speakers allow development and sharing of research and foster community in each area.
1. <u>Medieval and Early Modern Studies</u> . An unusually broad range of expertise in medieval languages and literatures includes Old English, Old Norse, Old French and Latin. Thirteen staff and postdoctoral researchers participate in the Institute for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (IMEMS), one of eight University Research Institutes (Research Director, Ravelhofer, co-leader

of multi-volume projects on the collected works of James Shirley and Records of Early English Drama – North East [REED, see ICS-4]). There have been six funded postdoctoral fellows in medieval and early modern studies during this REF cycle.

2. Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Writing links to the Centre for Nineteenth-Century Studies (CNCS), and includes expertise in American, Irish, and continental European writing as well as British. Focal points for research are drama, Romanticism, editing, narrative forms in England and Ireland, and Victorian poetry and non-fiction.

3. Modernisms and Post-War Cultures. Work spans sensory studies, environment, publishing networks, editorial practice, cognitive theory, and Irish modernism. Impact Case Study (ICS-3) springs from connections between mountaineering and modernism. A significant cluster researches post-World War Two British and American literary cultures with a particular Cold War focus. The Centre for Modern Conflicts and Cultures (CMCC), founded and led by Smith, hosts a Leverhulme project on the Political Warfare Executive, covert propaganda and British culture (PWE).

4. World Literatures and Literary Theory identifies a new focus enabled by expansion. It includes South East Asian, African and Caribbean literatures, world systems theory, gender and race, and Marxism. It links research in ecocritical theory, environment and precarity to the Centre for Culture and Ecology (Co-Director: Sheils) and the Institute for Hazard, Risk and Resilience (IHRR) (Co-Director: Botha).

5. Critical Medical Humanities. The department has led the development of *critical* medical humanities, bringing together work in medical humanities, cognitive studies, affect and critical theory. This focal point of research strategy since 2008 draws in colleagues from medieval studies, nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature, cognitive studies, theory, and other disciplines, and is a major source of grant income (section 3), supporting ICS-1 and ICS-2. Six staff are centrally involved in the Institute for Medical Humanities (IMH), the first such institute of its kind, jointly funded by a £1 million Wellcome grant (extended by a further award of £1.25 million, Oct. 2020) and the University (Co-Director: Saunders; Deputy Director: Woods). There have been six funded postdoctoral fellowships jointly in English and IMH during this cycle.

6. Poetry and Poetics and Creative Writing is supported by the Centre for Poetry and Poetics (CPP), led by Regan, and includes six highly acclaimed creative writers working in poetry, fiction and non-fiction. This cross-cutting theme connects with research in all above areas, including on the history of poetic theory from the Renaissance to the present, in the development of poetic forms, and has a focus on research-in-practice. There have been three funded postdoctoral fellows in modern poetry during this cycle.

Achievement of stated aims in REF 2014

The four overarching aims stated in REF 2014 have all been achieved:

Aim (i) To produce world-leading research

Publication of 28 original and influential monographs and major scholarly editions, ranging from transmission of texts in medieval Europe to contemporary Indian and Pakistani women's fiction. Research includes studies of important approaches (ecocriticism, Marxism and world literature,

screen adaptation, intellectual history), forms (the sonnet, minimalism), influential essay collections across all fields, and critically-acclaimed fiction and poetry (See REF2).

Aim (ii) To extend the department's international profile, especially through collaborations

New initiatives in renaissance drama, modernist studies and cognitive humanities have extended research collaboration (see also section 4), including through *Theatrum Mundi* (led by Ravelhofer), a large-scale research-in-practice conference in early modern drama, sponsored by the Société Internationale pour l'Etude du Théâtre Médiéval and Records of Early English Drama North East (see ICS-4), and *Cognitive Futures in the Humanities* (founded 2012, led by Garratt).

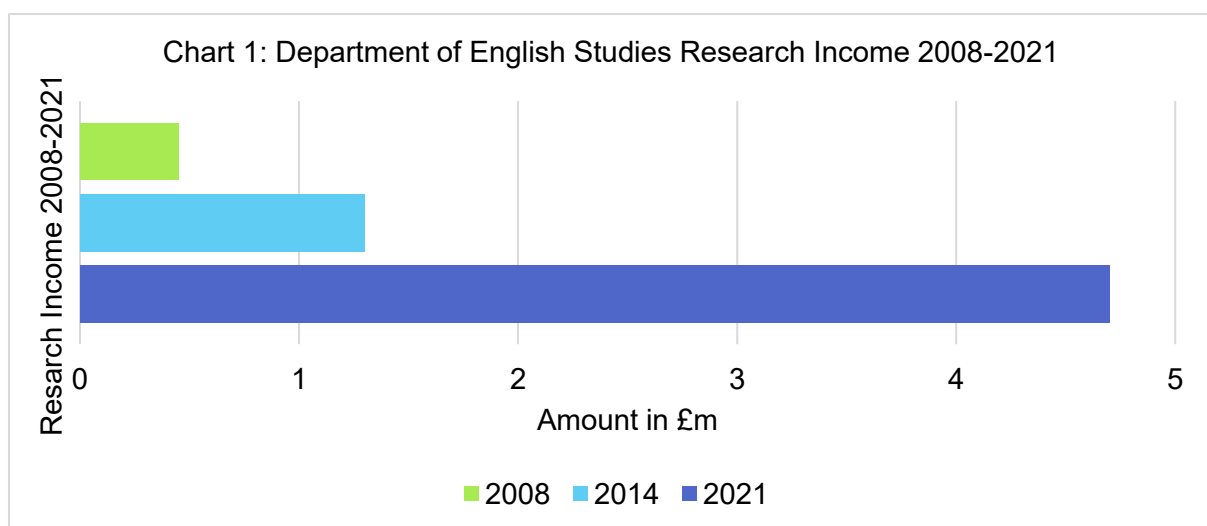
Aim (iii) To strengthen the environment for early-career researchers

Continuation and expansion of the AHRC Northern Bridge consortium has secured postgraduate funding, matched by University-funded studentships. Research projects awarded by Leverhulme and Wellcome contribute further funded places. All these provide inter-institutional and/or interdisciplinary supervisory teams, administrative assistance, non-academic collaborative opportunities and career guidance. PhD awards this REF cycle have risen nearly 100% on REF 2014.

Career development for 18 early-career researchers (ECRs) has been provided through large project grants and prestigious independent fellowships: 14 have obtained further academic appointments, 4 permanent academic posts. Bernini and Botha, early-career researchers on large-scale funded projects, have been appointed to Assistant Professorships at Durham; Lynes to a fixed-term lectureship and three-year research fellowship.

Aim (iv) To extend the amount and range of awards in research income

Research income has increased over 350% since 2014, to £4.78 million (Chart 1).



The department played a leading role in securing multi-million pound awards from the Wellcome Trust. Significant income from AHRC, Leverhulme and British Academy has been supplemented with awards from Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the ERC and individual fellowships.

Research and Impact Strategy

These achievements are rooted in the department's ambitious research strategy over the past decade. University strategy prioritised six departments including English for substantial expansion on the basis of increased student intake (maintaining a staff:student ratio of 1:15), leading to a revised departmental strategy (2015). This (i) identifies areas for recruitment and opportunities for high-level collaboration, (ii) sets objectives for the department collectively, and (iii) describes the mechanisms to achieve high-quality research and impact across the cycle of design, collaboration, completion and dissemination. Strategy is regularly reviewed by the Director of Research and Research Committee. Away Days and similar events offer department-wide opportunities to share research, consider curriculum development and EDI issues, and review aims.

- Foremost are recruitment policy and staff development (see section 2), aimed at hiring outstanding researchers, focusing on appointment of earlier career researchers alongside strategic enhancements of leadership in important areas. Priorities have been to: extend key areas of recognised strength (medieval studies, poetics, nineteenth- and twentieth-century writing), build capacity in previously under-represented areas (eighteenth-century literature, creative writing), and diversify into cognate areas that develop the curriculum, provide PhD supervision, attract funding, and extend partnerships and impact potential (world literatures, cognitive studies, medical humanities).
- The department places high strategic value on its leadership in medical humanities internationally, reflecting engagement with this field for over a decade. Its central role in the IMH (see section 1) enables researchers across English Studies to collaborate with other disciplines, health professionals and 'experts by experience' to explore issues such as voice-hearing, breath, affect, trauma, vulnerability, cognition and narratology.
- Strategic value is placed on research-in-practice – a close integration of critical analysis, textual study, performance and creativity, especially in drama, poetry and creative writing, modernism and medical humanities. Commitment to regional regeneration and promoting the centrality of culture through the arts is reflected in work with New Writing North, the Durham and Edinburgh Book Festivals, local writers and artists, film-makers and directors. Departmental, Faculty and external investment have enhanced the CPP, which brings together criticism and creative talent: led by Regan, it has digitised the magazine *Poetry Durham* (1982-94), revived a local poetry group, published award-winning poetry, and generated new collaborations with the Northern Poetry Library and the Poetry Book Society. This approach benefits research findings and changes practices, expanding the discipline's intellectual horizons and identifying new audiences. Ravelhofer has tested the practical viability of late-medieval dramatic scripts (ICS-4); Garrington's research in modernism and mountaineering led to partnerships with major cultural institutions and artists that have shaped her research (ICS-3).
- Interdisciplinary collaboration plays a vital role in framing research questions, grant writing and impact, and is achieved through work with Centres and Institutes, including

collaboration with the Centre for Visual Arts and Culture and research in the Centre for Modern Conflicts and Cultures. Working alongside colleagues in arts, social science, psychology and neuroscience, and medical practitioners, patients and support groups, the Hearing the Voice project has developed cross-disciplinary methods that also break new ground in literary studies; its 'Working Knowledge' series of Project Shorts is dedicated to the practicalities of interdisciplinary research, from design to social media. Interdisciplinary collaboration also offers career development through team work, leadership, training and learning new methods.

- External research funding enables collaboration across disciplines, completion of publications and impact work. Constructive internal peer-review leads to carefully nurtured applications and high success rates (section 3).
- Individual research and smaller-scale collaborations are encouraged through department, Faculty and Institute funding. Over the 2014-2020 REF period the Faculty has allocated just over £1.1 million to support both individual research and strategic research initiatives. Individual research allowances for, for example, conference attendance and archival work have been increased to £1,000/year for all REF-eligible staff (see REF5a 3.3). The Faculty offers funding for international travel and PhD students. Research leave, and formal inclusion of research time in workload models, is integral to completion of projects.
- Open Research Environment. Open access is actively promoted, following University policy. Staff publications are deposited in Durham Research Online (DRO), promoting research sharing; some research funders (e.g., Wellcome) require Gold Open Access. The department hosts *PG English*, an MLA-listed online postgraduate journal founded by Clark in 2000, and the Open Access online archive of *The Wellsian*, the scholarly journal of the international H. G. Wells Society. Since moving to Open Journal Systems in 2013, abstracts of *PG English* have been viewed 277,373 times, and PDFs of articles downloaded 175,783 times; *The Wellsian* is viewed c.3,000 times/month.
- Ethics. The Concordat to Support Research Integrity, adopted by the University in 2019, underpins research. All funding applications and relevant unfunded research require ethical approval; ethics is a standing Research Committee item. IMH has contributed to University and national discussions of good practice.

Impact strategy is focused on production of research that changes public understanding, contributes to health, well-being and community, works with national and regional partners and schools, and/or promotes arts and culture through exhibitions, festivals and events. Interdisciplinary methodologies, co-production of research, and engagement of staff and PGRs are central to strategy. Impact is overseen by a Deputy Director of Research, who advises on opportunities and development of case studies, and works closely with the Faculty Impact and Engagement Manager.

Case studies are rooted in long-standing collaborative and interdisciplinary work, assisted in three instances by large-scale funding awards, and build on strategic research areas: medical humanities: ICS-1 New Perspectives on Hearing Voices; ICS-2: Changing Approaches to

Breathing and Breathlessness; modernist studies: ICS-3 Heroism and Expeditionary Archives; and medieval and early modern studies: ICS-4: Cultural Heritage of North-East England. Strategic focus on poetry and poetics is reflected in the substantial impact and public engagement work of the CPP and creative writers.

Impact strategy comprises:

(i) Training. Staff attend University workshops in media presentation, public writing and working with the heritage industry. Research and Innovation Services (RIS) provides 'bespoke' training, including for early-career researchers. PhD students benefit from training through the AHRC-funded Northern Bridge consortium and involvement with ICSs, Research Centres and Institutes. The Faculty's Impact Assistant Fund has helped develop all four impact case studies, and trained PGRs in impact work. Specific expertise is available within IMH on working with patient and community groups and data analysis.

(ii) Funding. The Impact Officer assists staff with applications to competitively-awarded University-wide impact funds: over £70,000 has been awarded to English since 2015, supporting all four case studies and additional projects by funding travelling exhibitions, public performances, creative collaborations and participation in Durham Book Festival and Durham Arts Festival. Many externally-funded projects include impact and engagement in research design: Wellcome funding has enabled work in ICS-1 and ICS-2 and the appointment of professional support staff; the AHRC has supported ICS-3 and ICS-4.

(iii) Creative collaboration. The department promotes a culture of embedding practice, critical reflection and creative work, seen through the roles of writers-in-residence in ICS-1 and ICS-2, and in the dramatic performances of late-medieval and Renaissance spectacles (ICS-4), in collaboration with a visual artist (ICS-3), and in co-operation between creative writers, CPP and local and national arts and poetry organisations.

(iv) Engagement of diverse audiences and promotion of open access generate co-production of research. Engagement promotes impact through:

Social Media. Staff, post-docs and PhD students blog at Read English at Durham (READ) -- <http://readdurhamenglish.wordpress.com/>, updated at least weekly. Since 2014, it has had 241,000 views and has 2,321 subscribers; posts have been shared 7,803 times; it is linked to a busy Facebook page, with c.5,500 monthly views of posts, and a Twitter feed with 3,747 followers. READ's reach is both cultural and economic: it promotes events by many regional organisations, and has 393 subscribers including schoolteachers and reading groups. Linked videos and podcasts of public lectures, interviews, and performances have been viewed/listened to over 25,200 times and REED-NE (ICS-3) 30,947 times. A blog for IMH, relaunched as *The Polyphony: Conversations across the Medical Humanities* in 2018 (founding editor, Woods), has over 8,500 international followers and attracts over 6,000 views per month. The PWE project has its own website and blog (5010 visitors, 8,285 page views and 480 Twitter followers).

Broadcasting. Staff have contributed to the BBC Proms, BBC One's Future Tense, BBC R4's In Our Time and R3's The Essay and Free Thinking, and the World Service, and acted as

consultants on films and documentaries. Egbunike produced the documentary *In the Shadow of Biafra* (2020); Masud has been selected as a BBC / AHRC New Generation Thinker.

Public Writing. Colleagues write for newspapers and public-facing journals, including *London Review of Books*, *Dublin Review of Books*, *New York Times* and *The Lancet*. Staff and post-graduate researchers regularly contribute to *The Conversation*: an article by Sheils was republished internationally by *The Independent*, *RTÉ*, *the Smithsonian Institute*, *The Hindustan Times* and viewed online over 160,000 times; an article co-authored by Woods 308,849 times.

(v) Working with national and regional cultural partners. Collaboration with cultural organisations promotes the arts to diverse audiences and initiates and develops new work, sharing good practice. This includes longstanding regional collaborations with New Writing North and Durham Book Festival (see section 4), and, through IMH, an ongoing partnership with the Edinburgh International Book Festival (ICS-1). ICS-4 involved work with the National Galleries of Scotland and the Royal Geographical Society. James has worked closely with Arts Council England.

(vi) Opening access to University archives. The department has used Durham's special collections (including its medieval manuscripts and early printed books, modernist magazine collection and Oriental Museum archive) to illuminate issues of public concern (breath and breathlessness, voice-hearing, poetry and the North-East, folk belief and cultural boundaries), and mounted public exhibitions of its research in the University's exhibition space, the Wolfson Gallery (ICS-1 and 2, plus exhibitions staged by James, Terry, Regan, and Flood), and at the Oriental Museum and Ushaw College (the former Roman Catholic seminary, just outside Durham) (ICS-3). University and external funding has enabled four exhibitions to tour beyond Durham, including in pop-up exhibitions nationally and internationally.

(vii) Education. Impact strategy seeks to involve school children from the city and the region, by staging events in schools and designing accessible introductions to research ideas, including through exhibitions and other activities. ICS-2 and ICS-3 included educational events for school children, designed by the Palace Green Library's 4schools team, and at the Oriental Museum. ICS-4 held workshops with young children who subsequently participated voluntarily in a range of dramatic productions. Schoolteachers and pupils are invited to the postgraduate-led Late Summer Lectures Series (1,130 invitations, 2020).

(viii) Key to impact strategy are collaborations with healthcare organisations, in many cases fostered for over a decade, and leading to ICS-1 and ICS-2: Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys, Northumberland, and Tyne & Wear NHS Trusts; Royal College of Physicians; British Lung Foundation; Hearing Voices Network. Staff also work closely with practitioners, support groups, patients and service-users. Partners have contributed to co-produced research, design of practical applications and initiatives directed to changing public understanding (ICS-1 and ICS-2).

Research Objectives 2020-2030

Objectives for the next decade are to:

- publish research of the highest quality in all six research areas
- promote innovative collaborations with cultural and social benefits, addressing urgent questions relating to health, the environment, arts and culture, and the digital and cognitive humanities
- play a leading part in interdisciplinary and international research projects in all six research areas
- further integrate early-career researchers, including postgraduates, in the research environment, including by extended training, funding and mentoring
- continue to promote equality, diversity and inclusion across the spectrum of researchers, identifying any areas for improvement
- form new, more diverse audiences and collaborations, including through recent investment in research in world literatures.

The expansion of the department over the years 2017 to 2020 (section 2), alongside strategic recruitment, development of influential interdisciplinary research methods, sharing of practice, close collaboration with and leadership in Research Centres and Institutes, and enhanced administrative and funding support all contribute to the vitality and sustainability of research and the likelihood of achieving these objectives.

Plans include to:

- establish an international reputation in world literatures, through publications, conferences, staff and PhD recruitment
- play a leading role in the next stage of international medical humanities research, responding to global challenges through new work on hidden health conditions, stigma, trauma, affect and the interface of cognitive and literary studies. English Studies will be a driver of IMH's development, including through an application for Wellcome Research Centre status in 2021, and development of a three-year ECR training programme. Research is supported by a recent extension to IMH's Wellcome Development Grant (£1m).
- enhance the international profile of the Centre for Modern Conflicts and Cultures, including through important volumes on British and American literary culture in the Second World War and Cold War and work on the history of disinformation; and to further interdisciplinary modernist studies through work in sensory studies, history of emotions, modernism and the environment, and the 1922 centenary
- develop collaborative research on twenty-first century writing, on futurity, risk, vulnerability, environmental and digital humanities, bringing together work in cognitive studies, medical humanities and critical theory
- enhance the profile of CPP through research on the history and theory of poetics including *The Oxford History of Poetry in English* (Regan), influential creative writing and impact
- further work in arts and culture, including heritage, and put criticism, creativity and practice into ever-closer alignment

- extend international profile in medieval studies and Renaissance literature, working with IMEMS to secure external funding and promote the use of Durham's archives through residential Library fellowships (section 4).
- enhance an open research culture by engaging communities in substantially more published research through open access, online, free-to-view channels, anticipating Plan S.

The sustainability and vitality of the department within the current challenging context of COVID-19 and in a period of national retraction are evidenced by the University's commitment to the recruitment of five new posts in 2021-22, which will further enhance early modern, nineteenth- and twentieth-century and contemporary studies, medical humanities and areas such as cognitive, environmental and digital humanities.

Section 2. People

Following recent expansion, the department has become one of the largest English departments in the UK: 55 staff at July 2020. The female:male staff ratio is 40:60 with six identifying as from a BAME background and twelve with part-time roles: six male; six female. Robust processes, including of recruitment and induction, maintenance of staff:student ratio at 1:15, and career development for all staff are essential. Active commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion in this REF cycle is reflected in the award of an Athena SWAN Bronze Award in May 2020. Values of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) are integral to staff and postgraduate recruitment and development, and fostered through such mechanisms as the EDI Open Committee which meets termly. A self-assessment team oversees implementation of the Athena SWAN action plan. EDI is integrated into departmental practice, in recruitment, promotion, research leave, training and working patterns, in alignment with University policies (see REF5a 3.1-4,6).

Recruitment Policy

During this REF cycle, the department has made 25 appointments, largely in the period 2017–2020, with four further appointments starting from Sept. 2020. 22 appointments have been at early or mid-career with some senior roles to contribute to leadership of particular areas of growth.

Following the University's revision of recruitment processes in 2016 (see REF5a 3.1 and 3.2), international job searches are undertaken for all appointments. Long- and short-listing panels evaluate publications and research and teaching plans, with input sought across the department; all search committee members undertake unconscious bias training. Long- and short-lists are checked against discipline and sector EDI norms.

Recruitment strategy was to: (i) stage new posts incrementally in order to assist induction of new staff; (ii) enhance established strengths in specific periods, genres and themes; and (iii) invest in world literatures in English as a field that extended the research base, diversified the curriculum, addressed urgent current issues and offered opportunities for new collaborations and supervision. A new post in medical humanities was created through a funding award, and University restructuring enabled further expansion in this field.

Category A 'permanent' appointments complement and extend existing strengths in the six primary areas of research:

Medieval and early modern studies: Bridges in medieval literatures; Brljak in early modern poetics; Lawton, a senior appointment in Chaucer and medieval poetics; Swann in early modern intellectual history (a post dedicated to interdisciplinary research); Huxtable in medieval literature and science (from Oct. 2020).

Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Writing: Valladares in Romantic-period drama, complementing strengths in Romantic poetry; Dubois in Victorian poetry; Robertson, a senior appointment ranging across this period with a transatlantic specialism. Rohrbach in British and comparative Romanticisms; Riley in nineteenth- and twentieth-century American poetry and critical theory (both Oct. 2020).

Modernisms and Post-War Cultures: Garrington and Sheils in twentieth-century writing, complementing strengths in affect, environment, world literature and Irish studies; Pugh in post-War American literature; Short (2019-21) in modernist fiction, embodiment and gender.

World Literature and Literary Theory: Mirza in Pakistani and Indian women's fiction; Hartley in theories of world literature and Marxism; Botha in minimalism, theory and South African literature; Egbunike in Nigerian writing and culture (Oct. 2020).

Critical Medical Humanities: Bernini in cognitive studies and modernism, to the first lectureship in cognitive literary studies in the UK; Woods in cultural theory and contemporary writing, previously an honorary fellow in English, joining from the School of Medicine, Pharmacy and Health, with two postdoctoral fellows, a creative facilitator and an administrative team; Riddell in nineteenth-century and fin-de-siècle literature (2019-23, funded by medical humanities awards).

Poetry and Poetics and Creative Writing: Booth and Sahota, both renowned novelists; Harman, an award-winning biographer and life-writer; acclaimed poets Chingonyi and Riviere; Riley (see above).

Warwick, appointed as Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research (2015) and now full-time in English Studies, brings new strengths in digital humanities. High value is placed on emeritus staff: Fuller has been retained part-time to work on Shakespeare, Romantic poetry, aesthetics and medical humanities; McKinnell was PI on 'Records of Early English Drama' to 2018 and is active in REED initiatives.

Staff development

Responsibility for development of research is shared between the Head of Department, Director of Research, directors for impact and grants, and Research Committee, liaising with the Staff Development Officer, a newly-created role. New staff are assigned a mentor who advises on teaching, research, and career development. Whenever possible, short-term appointments are designed as both research and teaching posts to enable career development: Huxtable, previously temporary lecturer, was appointed to a permanent post; Lynes previously research fellow, to a temporary lectureship and three-year fellowship; Short to

a second, two-year lectureship, all in the department. Induction meetings take place with department, Faculty and research support staff. Probation for all University academic appointments, including early-career researchers and postdoctoral scholars, is for one year. Research goals and objectives are agreed with the Head of Department. New staff are assisted by workload reductions (c.85% teaching and examining load without significant administrative offices), mentoring and staff reviews. All new staff have been confirmed in post during this cycle.

Each year staff complete a Personal Research Plan (PRP), specifying short- and longer-term research goals, grant and impact plans, and training needs. This is discussed with individual mentors and forwarded to the Director of Research, who with the deputy Director of Research (Grants) assists with research and grant planning. This enables career development and collaboration with colleagues and other departments, and identifies issues for collective discussion.

Training for all staff and PGRs is provided through the Durham Centre for Academic Development, including in postgraduate supervision skills, research methods, project management, and research dissemination. RIS provides regular, tailored workshops, open to postdoctoral researchers, on external funding in conjunction with the Faculty and successful applicants to disseminate good practice (see section 3). RIS provides an Arts and Humanities-dedicated specialist impact manager, experienced in working with cultural and heritage organisations.

Staff at all levels act as research mentors where appropriate: for example, relatively early-career lecturers may gain experience in mentoring postdoctoral researchers. A workload model operates in a transparent and proportionate way: 50% of each workload is allocated to research; all administrative roles have a specific workload allocation; and in term-time all staff are guaranteed at least one day per week without teaching.

All staff benefit from the University's provision of regular research leave (without teaching, examining or administrative duties) of one term in every seven. Applications state specific goals, and a report is submitted at the start of the following term: all applications since 2014 have been successful. During the period, six staff have gained additional leave terms in an internal research fellowship competition administered by the Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) and in Faculty-wide competition; four previous additional leaves supported research for outputs submitted in REF2021. Colleagues returning from parental/adoption leave are granted an additional term of research leave.

In 2017 the University revised promotion processes and renamed career grades as Assistant, Associate, and full Professor. Following University practice (see REF5a 3.2), the Department Promotion and Progression Committee considers all eligible members of staff for nomination to the Faculty Promotion Committee, ensuring parity of consideration at all levels and guarding against gender bias (a self-nomination system is retained for exceptional circumstances). World-leading quality of publications (appropriate to career stage) is specified in University benchmarks as an essential criterion; impact is an explicitly stated desirable criterion. The department provides detailed information on benchmarks. A statement on contribution to equality and diversity is mandatory. The Chair of EDI Committee or a nominated colleague sits

on Department Promotion and Progression committee. Staff are mentored throughout the promotion process: the Head of Department and other senior staff offer feedback at all stages; all staff are invited to consult a senior mentor nominated by EDI Committee.

It is standard to progress from Grade 7 to Grade 8 on meeting probation targets. Since 2014, 20 members of staff have been promoted, including 4 professorial promotions (3 further promotions, 1 professorial, announced Oct. 2020 due to COVID-19 delays). All staff are eligible for discretionary awards for exceptional contributions, including impact achievements; the department has a good record of achievement.

Staff are encouraged to take up leadership roles within the University and beyond, including this cycle: Deputy Executive Dean (Research) for Arts and Humanities (Robertson; previously Nash), University Council (Saunders). Warwick was chair of Russell Group PVC Research working group; Woods and Terry participated in the UK Leadership Foundation for Higher Education Aurora Development Programme. Leadership roles, including in Centres, Institutes and large-scale research projects, bring dedicated administrative support and reduction of departmental workload.

The department's EDI Committee has emphasised work-life balance as a key issue, resulting in alterations to timings of research seminars and meetings. A well-being policy is promoted to staff and PGRs and the resources offered by Organisation Development and Occupational Health are recommended. In response to individual circumstances colleagues at all levels, including ECRs, have been granted 'flexible working' rights to alter hours and patterns of work, including moving to part-time contracts or taking extended parental leave. In this cycle, ill health, caring responsibilities, disability and serious adverse circumstances have also been adjusted for through support for working from home, purchase of specialist equipment, altered workloads and additional administrative support. Part-time and fixed-term staff are entitled to the same level of research funding and support as full-time 'permanent' staff. Teaching fellows have access to career development funding to further their research.

Early-Career Researchers

The University has won an HR Excellence in Research award from the European Commission; it implements in full the European Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. This provides a set of values that inform support for ECRs: training for career development; equality and diversity in opportunity; personal well-being; and access to academic guidance, facilities and funds. Initiatives are overseen by Postgraduate Committee and Research Committee. Advice is offered on all aspects of job applications and support given through personal research funds. Postdoctoral teachers are supported through career development funds.

Durham University operated a very successful programme of two-year Junior Research Fellowships co-funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme, 2014–2019, which enabled eight early-career researchers in the department to initiate and complete independent projects following from doctoral work. The department has secured numerous highly competitive externally funded fellowships including four Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships (since 2014), and has employed seven postdoctoral research associates as part of externally-funded projects. All such researchers are full members of the department, supported

by the mentoring, research funding, training and seminars available to all staff. They are given office space and teaching opportunities, and attend the Board of Studies. Success is evident in the fact that five have now secured permanent posts at research-intensive universities; and two hold prestigious research fellowships.

Research students

Since 2014, English Studies has expanded the size of, and provision for, the research student community, enhancing funding, supervision, review and career development. This strategic development is reflected in 96 successful PhD completions, compared to 49.4 in REF 2014. The gender balance was 35:65 male:female; 31 were international students. Numbers were spread across the department's research areas: 44 completed PhDs in post-1900 literary studies; 21 in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century writing; 21 in medieval and early modern literature and 10 in world literatures and theory. Recent recruitment extends supervisory capacity in world literatures, which has rising numbers of students, and in 2016-17, the department launched a new PhD programme in creative writing.

The department has expanded the funding sources which support students. Its range of supervisory expertise and research strengths, and its robust processes, were central to the University's successful application to the AHRC's BGP2 scheme, Northern Bridge (see REF5a 3.5). Since 2014, the department has won 12 Northern Bridge doctoral studentships, and an additional 11 fully-funded Durham Doctoral Studentships (fees and maintenance grants). The 50 current registered PGRs include students supported by scholarships from Wolfson, the Leverhulme Trust, the Wellcome Trust and the AHRC (REED project). PGRs have also been funded by the British Council, Charles Wallace Pakistan Trust, China Scholarships Council, Egyptian Cultural Bureau, and Algerian government. In total, 35 students have been fully funded through doctoral study in this REF cycle (32 in REF 2014). Bridges has won a British Library Collaborative Doctoral Fellowship (2020-24). Placements are now built into Northern Bridge Fellowships and have been held in publishing, archives and heritage.

Co-Directors of Postgraduate Research advise PGRs, who are integrated with staff and postdoctoral researchers through various means. Research seminars are held regularly for both staff and PGRs; PGRs are responsible for organising the seminar series *Inventions of the Text*, also attended by staff and (since 2010) an annual, public Late Summer Lectures series (c.8 weekly lectures with internal and external speakers). Specialist staff-student reading groups, often led by PGRs/ECRs, include in this cycle: Old Norse, Medieval Latin, literary theory, Irish studies, and mid-twentieth century literature. Research Institutes and Centres including IMH and IMEMS, the Centre for Culture and Ecology, the Durham Centre for Ancient and Medieval Philosophy and the Centre for Visual Arts and Culture hold regular staff-PGR reading groups. PGRs funded by Northern Bridge benefit from generous research funding, enabling attendance at conferences and archival work; staff and PGRs often present at the same conferences, for example, the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo and the British Association of Modernist Studies conference. All PGRs, postdoctoral researchers and other staff in English Studies are invited to a weekly informal lunch, promoting wellbeing and integration. (Like seminars, this has been held virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic).

PGRs work closely with a main supervisor, usually meeting fortnightly in term-time, and at least one secondary supervisor, usually with an 80/20 or 60/20/20 split. Department procedures

have been revised to give students further guidance, assist timely completion and promote well-being. Progress is reviewed by another staff member at three stages: progression review after eight months, confirmation review after 20 months, and completion review to prepare for submission and viva, with a further review for students on continuation. Reviews include feedback on written work and individual meetings.

All PGRs receive training in research methods including use of special collections, as well as for career development: publishing, social media, conferences, networking. The Durham Centre for Academic Development operates a range of year-round courses in, for example, languages, presentation skills, viva preparation and publishing. Departmental training was redesigned in 2019 to introduce more regular cross-disciplinary training seminars and events such as meetings with publishers. Teaching Assistantships allow development of teaching skills through tutorial teaching. All PGR teachers undertake thorough departmental induction and the Durham University Learning and Teaching Award, accredited by the HEA, which provides transferable skills and is a recognised benchmark for teaching practice. Assigned mentors oversee preparation and assessment, and offer feedback on teaching.

This combination of academic supervision, skills training and departmental integration contributes to a vibrant research community the quality of which is reflected by its achievements in:

(i) Publishing. PGRs have published in *Medium Ævum*, *Victorian Literature and Culture*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Essays in Criticism*, *Cambridge Quarterly*, *Journal of Modern Literature*, *Modernism/Modernity*, *Review of English Studies*, *Textual Practice*. PGRs edited special issues of *Brontë Studies*, *Romanticism*, and in this cycle alone c.10 dissertations have been published as monographs. Two editors for *PG English* are trained annually. A strong creative writing culture is fostered by CPP: the student-led literary magazines *Durham English Review*, *The Gentian* and *From the Lighthouse* and the online journal *The Bubble* are supported by the staff through contributions and advice. Notable awards won by recent students include the Eric Gregory Award, Foyle Young Poet of the Year and Christopher Tower Poetry Prize; novels and poetry have been published by HarperCollins and *The Poetry Review*.

(ii) Career Trajectory. The department prepares PhD students for work (academic or non-academic) through a Research Assistantship scheme (begun in 2009). Each year, 8-10 PGRs are appointed, after advertisement, to assist staff members on research projects, receiving training in archival research, transcription, editing or bibliographical work. PGRs have gone on to further academic careers at seven UK universities including Durham, and at universities in Australia, Canada, China, Egypt, India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan, Turkey and the United States.

(iii) Subject Contribution. PGRs provide leadership in regional groups, such as the North East PGR Group in the Long 19th Century, organised from Durham, and the regular 'Mother Tongues' Medieval Seminar (co-funded by IMEMS). A medical humanities network for PGRs/ECRs received funding from the Wolfson Institute. Woods won funding from the British Academy for a three-day workshop for early-career researchers on 'Collaboration in the Critical Medical Humanities' (2017), from Wellcome for a New Generations programme, and is developing a Wellcome-supported Cultures of Collaboration training programme (2021-).

(iv) Non-academic partnerships. Departmental training in impact, including writing for non-academic audiences, has produced regular PGR contributions to READ; to a Medieval and Early Modern Studies community course; and to the impact work of major funded projects (for example as RAs for all four ICSs). Collaboration with strategic partners such as New Writing North provides training for PGRs in arts management and the cultural sector. All PGRs contributing to *Postgraduate English* are invited to contribute a blog to READ and offered one-to-one training in public engagement.

(v) Conferences. In addition to financial support for archival visits and conference participation and organisation – available from department, Faculty and Colleges – staff mentor PGRs in devising and running conferences, developing management and budget-holding skills. Since 2010 an annual research assistantship has been offered for a PGR to organise a conference in Durham; a selection of proceedings appears in *PG English*. Such conferences have included ‘Abnormality and the Abnormal in the Nineteenth Century’ (2015), ‘Literary Birds’ and ‘Elegy: New Approaches’ (2018), ‘Consent’ (2019) and ‘Humour and Satire in British Romanticism’ (2019) (papers to be published in *Romanticism*). PGRs co-organised the annual international Gender and Medieval Studies Conference (2019) and the 2017 Brontë Society international conference, both in Durham. With IMH, Woods has developed conference policies concerning respect, which form part of training and conference organisation for staff and PGRs.

(vi) Interdisciplinary research. IMH, IMEMS and CNCS provide focused environments for specific forms of interdisciplinary work. The Medieval and Early Modern Student Association hosts fortnightly seminars, augmented by workshops, colloquia, and a summer conference. PGRs have contributed to major IMH, IMEMS and CNCS conferences, including ‘Life of Breath’, ‘Personification Across Disciplines’ and ‘Medieval Theatre Forum’. A PGR in literary modernism is the only non-scientist invited to the Arctic Frontiers conference in Norway.

Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Research Income, Strategy and Organisation

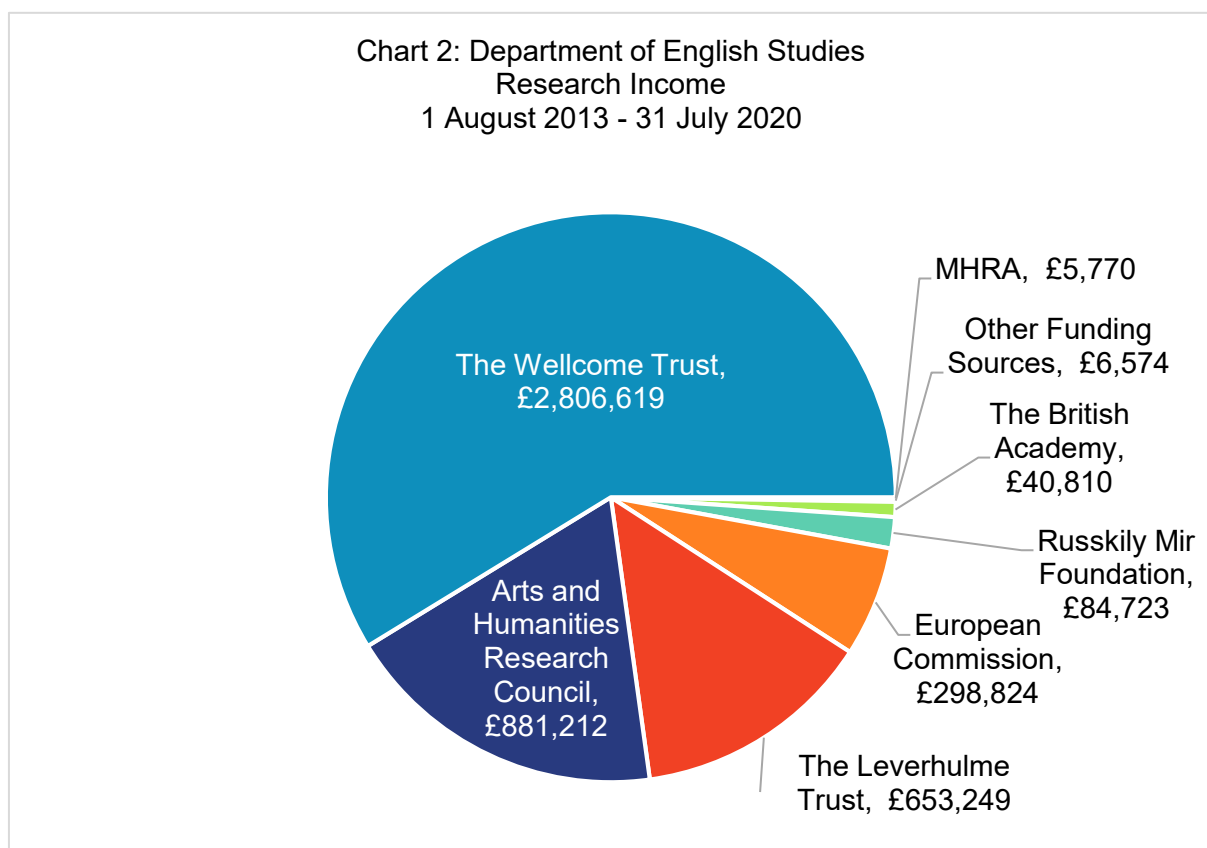
The department has increased its external research income from £1.3 million for REF 2014 to £4.78 million, a rise of over 350%. This includes three major Wellcome-funded collaborative awards in medical humanities – Hearing the Voice, Life of Breath and a Development grant – all of which brought posts and further awards to the department.

The department is placed in the top third of English departments in the Russell Group for grant income, attesting to the innovation, quality and sustainability of its research culture. A conservative projection of £450,000 per annum for the next REF period, *much of this income already guaranteed by current awards*, reflects success and ensures future development. Research awards have generated major collaborative research projects, and led to numerous high-quality publications, prominent interdisciplinary and methodological work, an expansion of funded doctoral and postdoctoral places, and enhancement of postgraduate and ECR communities. They are highly influential in sustaining the discipline, including through the creation of major edited collections; developing new interdisciplinary fields, such as in medical

and cognitive humanities; and forming new collaborations with cultural and health sector organisations.

Strategy and organisation:

1. Diversification of income by research area. Income at REF 2014 was itself a 300% rise on 2008, but reflected reliance on specific staff members. Awards in the current cycle (see Chart 2) reflect both consolidation of success and applications from a wider range of staff. The closer organisational link with IMH, with Woods moving to English, has increased the department's share of Wellcome Trust funds, also awarded to Saunders and Waugh. Significant income has been won from AHRC and Leverhulme, for major projects and individual fellowships, for example, Smith, Political Warfare Executive, Covert Propaganda, and British Culture (Leverhulme, £320,000); Mack (Leverhulme Research Fellowship, £46,000), and from the EU for co-funded research fellowships.

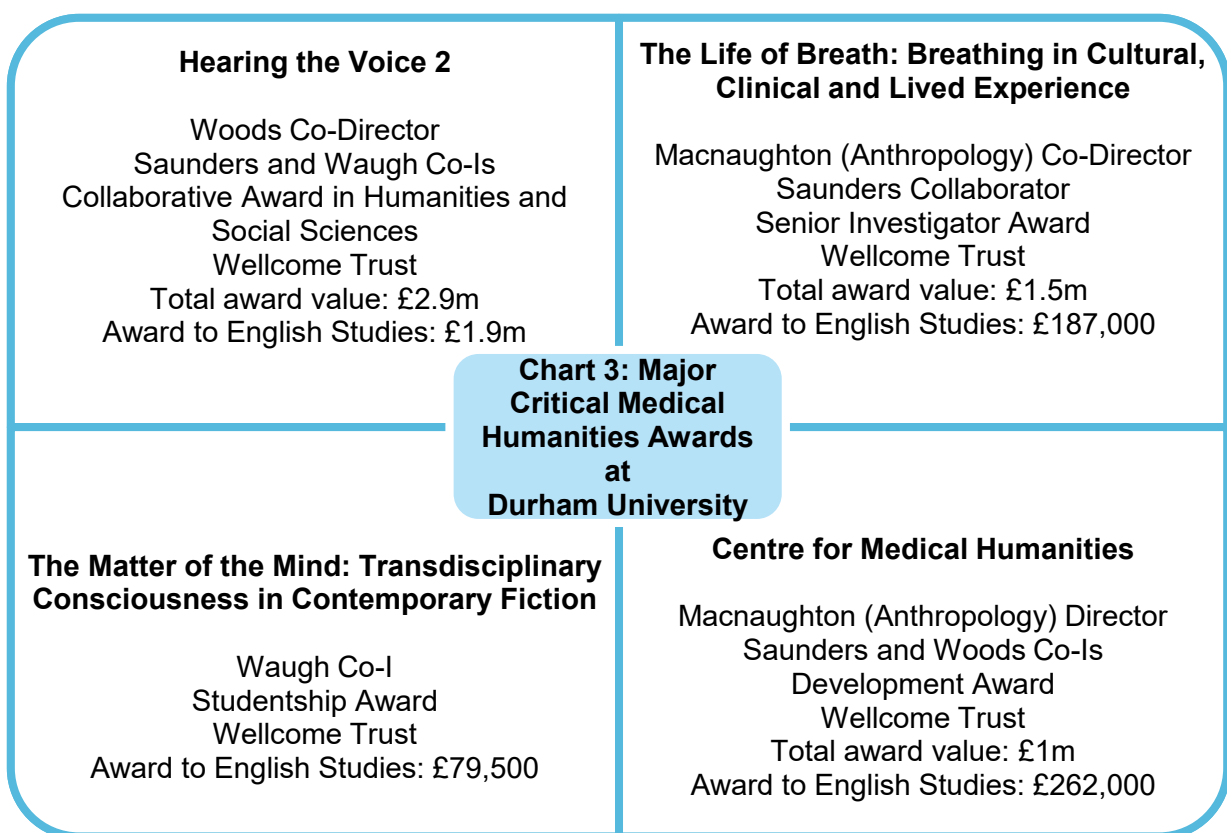


2. Collaboration. Centres and Institutes have been notably successful in generating collaborations that lead to funding. Smith is PI of the PWE project, developed in collaboration with the Centre for Modern Conflicts and Cultures (Waugh, Co-I; Fox, Co-I is historian at School of Advanced Study, University of London). The project COVID-19 Rumours in Historical Context (Fox, PI; Smith, Co-I; AHRC-funded, Oct. 2020) was developed in this cycle in response to the pandemic. The REED project, partly developed with IMEMS, involves collaboration with an international team of editors. The IMH model (see Chart 3) is founded on collaboration with academic and non-academic partners, also facilitating interdisciplinary methods. The Hearing the Voice and Life of Breath projects bring together researchers from all

three Faculties with health practitioners and those with lived experience. Hearing the Voice was awarded the 2020 AHRC/Wellcome Medical Humanities Award for 'Best Research'.

3. Building on Success. Grant awards have led to further success. Chambers, for example, employed on the REED project, was Co-Investigator on the AHRC-funded Lexis of Cloth and Clothing in Medieval Royal Wardrobe Project, awarded follow-on impact funding of £79,000. Investment in medical humanities as an emerging field more than a decade ago has influenced the formation of research in cognitive humanities, as in A History of Distributed Cognition (Garratt Co-I; AHRC Standard Grant, £8,266).

4. Impact. Research grant income assists in development of impact and engagement work. In addition to supporting case studies, funding enabled other non-academic collaborations. James was awarded a Creative Economy Engagement Fellowship with New Writing North (AHRC, £44,689).



5. Training and Community. Funding boosts training programmes, enhances integration of communities, and builds networks of researchers. Staff actively mentor prospective applicants to postdoctoral schemes, with notable success. Seventeen postdoctoral researchers have been funded in this cycle, with support from: AHRC, European Commission, Leverhulme and Wellcome, including four prestigious Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships. The Leverhulme PWE award funds one PhD student and one postdoctoral researcher. AHRC BGP-2 funding provides support for the PGR community (see section 2).

6. Equality and Diversity. A positive and supportive research strategy has shaped an inclusive research culture. This is borne out in the gender balance of grant awards: of the 34 successful

applications between July 2013 and August 2020 led by English Studies primary investigators, 19 had female PIs, including 4 of the 5 largest grants awarded to the department.

Recommendations from the Athena SWAN process have refined practices such as mentoring, early-career induction processes, and follow-up meetings with unsuccessful applicants, to ensure support at key career points for all staff, including those from under-represented groups.

7. Planning and Peer Review. All staff annually make and review plans for external funding (see section 2): emphasis is on submitting applications that are likely to be competitive rather than meeting annual targets. A Deputy Director of Research deals with grant applications, discusses projects and scheme expectations, and organises peer reviews. Further support is provided through internal and external-led workshops targeted at specific schemes, organised by the department, Faculty and Research Office. A database of successful applications across the Faculty is available for consultation. A two-tier peer-review system ensures all applications are read both in the department and elsewhere in the Faculty for a cross-disciplinary perspective. These processes underpin a success rate for English Studies grant applications of 28% (2014-2020).

Operational and scholarly infrastructure: estate, staff, equipment

There have been significant developments in the infrastructure to support research since 2014.

The University's commitment to updating its estate and facilities has considerably enhanced literary research through Library expansion and postgraduate workspace (see REF5a 4.2). The current annual library budget for English is £101,500 (a 13% increase on 2015): all staff order in their research areas, including electronic resources, back-runs, out-of-print and one-off items. All significant journals in the field, and many smaller ones, are available online and often in hardcopy. The Library holds over 120 relevant online databases and funds major electronic resources through central funds.

In 2016 the University introduced a research incentivisation scheme by which a proportion of overheads is contributed to a personal research fund for the successful PI and a similar amount to the department research fund. These monies have been used to support international workshops, conference travel and archival visits for staff and PGRs, and to fund departmental research seminar programmes.

All researchers in English have access to a network of archives and special collections across Durham, including the Cathedral Library, the internationally renowned Special Collections department of the University Library, and the library of Ushaw College (see REF5a 4.3), which holds medieval manuscripts and rare printed collections, including of eighteenth and nineteenth century literature. Holdings in these libraries and elsewhere, such as at The Bowes Museum (Barnard Castle), are searchable through the University online catalogue. Staff across English use: (i) Bishop Cosin's Library, Palace Green and Cathedral collections of medieval manuscripts and early printed books (Archibald, Bridges, Cartlidge, Saunders), together forming one of the richest pre-Reformation libraries in the world; (ii) archives in the Cathedral Library and Ushaw College library, essential to the REED project (Ravelhofer) and work in medieval and early modern studies; (iii) the Old Norse collection (Ashurst), begun in the 1960s and one of the best in the UK; (iv) a collection unparalleled in the UK outside copyright libraries

of decadent, aestheticist and modernist periodicals, and the William Plomer collection of letters between the publisher and leading 20th century writers (James, Harding); (v) the Basil Bunting archive (acquired 1987) of papers and recordings of the Northumbrian poet, enhanced by the Anne Stevenson Collection of contemporary poetry (2020) and the acquisition (through the CPP) of early manuscript drafts and rare printed works by Irish poet Ciaran Carson (Regan and others in CPP).

University custodianship of Ushaw College Library led to an agreement with Durham Cathedral Library to create a unified Durham Residential Research Library (DRRL) in 2017 (see REF5a 4.3). Thirty visiting fellowships in arts and humanities, funded by the University and donors, and open to non-academic applicants, are administered by the DRRL Steering Committee (including Faculty and IMEMS representatives) and enable research drawing on Ushaw, Cathedral library and University special collections. Nash oversaw the academic programme at Ushaw (Regan and Ravelhofer coordinated conferences and visiting speakers), leading to the creation of the RRL and its fellowship scheme: in 2018-19, the inaugural year, six were in English, enhancing research collaboration. Fellowships, lectures and a new exhibition space (used in ICS-3) have notably increased public access to Ushaw College.

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

Through its research excellence and impact, and its collaborations within and beyond English studies, the department plays an influential role in the field nationally and internationally. It promotes collaboration with academic and non-academic partners, to extend the reach and diversity of audiences, facilitate interdisciplinary research, and contribute to the research base. Departmental, Faculty and University funds are available for development of grant applications or potential impact work; Centres and Institutes host visiting fellows and fund initial stages of collaborative projects.

Department and University structures (section 1) facilitate collaboration as a series of steps from small-scale links, through formal networks, to large funded multi-institutional projects, the creation of strategic partnerships, co-production of research with academic and non-academic partners, and ability to impact wider, non-academic audiences. The example of REED-NE illustrates stages and support mechanisms: (i) initial local links between McKinnell and Ravelhofer's shared interest in late-medieval performance, assisted by recruitment strategy and research seminars; (ii) application to join international REED network (based in Toronto) facilitated by grant development support, assisted by Faculty and IMEMS peer review; (iii) creation of research fellowships and non-academic partnerships through grant award, attracting additional PhD students (iv) research-in-practice, funded by grant and University impact funding including a PhD student impact assistant, allows joint amateur-professional staging of Renaissance drama testing performance practice; (v) supported by internal funds, further events enabling wide range of groups and volunteers to gain exposure, develop skills and enhance well-being (see ICS-4) (vi) AHRC follow-on fund application submitted. This project grew out of many years of international partnerships with researchers and practitioners (in particular in Canada, France and Belgium), and has established new relationships with heritage institutions, schools, churches, cultural and dramatic organisations and groups, contributing to the cultural identity of the North East through its excavation and revival of ritual and performance, including in relation to costume, embroidery, music and dance.

Academic events, local interdisciplinary collaboration, co-production of research and impact events are encouraged in all research areas. Some collaborations lead to multi-institutional scholarly projects, others generate far-reaching social benefits. Collaboration is enabled through:

(i) Smaller-scale innovative interdisciplinary research that seeks to extend the frontiers of English studies. IAS funding enabled Harding and Nash to stage workshops for linguists and classicists leading to *Modernism and Non-Translation*. The IAS, IMH and department co-funded two public lecture series on 'Beauty' underpinning volumes published in this cycle, *The Recovery of Beauty*, (co-ed. Fuller, Macnaughton, Saunders) and *The Persistence of Beauty* (co-ed. O'Neill, Sandy, Wootton). The North-East Forum for Eighteenth-Century Studies holds regular seminars, co-convened by Skinner; Robertson and Skinner have established a cross-disciplinary Long Eighteenth Century Research Group collaborating with Palace Green Library to draw on archives and special collections.

(ii) Visiting Fellows

The department regularly hosts research fellows and practitioners for extended visits and public engagement. The IAS sponsored a Visiting Research Fellowship for Peter Hansen, the world's leading historian of mountaineering, supporting ICS-3; the Hearing the Voice project funded a fellowship for world-leading professor of clinical psychology Louis Sass (Rutgers); Sheils and Bristow won funding from IHRR for psychoanalyst Sally Weintrobe to give a public lecture on the psychology of climate change.

(iii) Strategic partnerships with regional and national organisations.

The department values longstanding strategic partnerships that have grown from local-level involvement. In addition to those described in the case studies, the department and CPP promote Durham and the region as an important national focus for poetry. The Durham Book Festival (DBF) has been a regional success story for over a decade, attracting major authors and generating much tourism and revenue for the area. James and Regan are on the DBF programme committee. The CPP, through Regan, Batchelor, Chingonyi and Riviere, has worked with DBF and Northern Poetry Library, the Poetry Book Society and T. S. Eliot Foundation to encourage the performative and textual life of poetry in the region, and to showcase, encourage and commission new work, countering London-centric trends. The department supports DBF by annually funding and appointing a festival laureate who produces a new poem inspired by the region (recent laureates include Simon Armitage, Helen Mort and Raymond Antrobus). Booth is a judge for New Writing North's Sid Chaplin Award for working class writing and Young Writers Awards, and mentors recipients of their annual award in novel writing.

The University has Memoranda of Agreement with The Bowes Museum, leading to online cataloguing, and Auckland Castle: the Auckland Project has established the new Zurbarán Centre for Spanish and Latin American Art involving members of the Department; Robertson is a member of the Steering Committee. Warwick's research on digital eye tracking is in partnership with Bowes, Auckland and staff in modern languages.

(iv) Research engaging new and diverse audiences

To support engagement with audiences potentially unfamiliar with literary research and/or University life, the department and University fund events, lecture series, meetings, workshops and visits. According to the 'Changing Lives' report by the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee in the House of Commons, work undertaken by James at Frankland Prison, one of the highest-security prisons in the UK, 'allows prisoners to interact with each other more freely' and provides 'a framework for ethical debate' assisting prospects of rehabilitation.

Research by Woods and Waugh engages the voice-hearing community, many of whom experience severe mental health problems and come from socio-economically disadvantaged groups, through partnerships with Waddington Street Community Centre (Durham), local and national Hearing Voices Movement, and consultancy for films addressing mental illness. Work in medical humanities leads to publications co-authored with scientists published in high-profile scientific journals, for example, *The Lancet Psychiatry*.

(v) Contributions to national debates

Departmental strategy encourages ambitious engagement in national debates, exemplifying the vitality of English studies. Colleagues have made important public contributions regarding innovation, creativity, diversity, open access and children's education. Waugh wrote a section on complexity and narrative thinking for Sir Mark Wolpert's first 2014 Report to the Government on Science, Risk and Innovation, circulated among European policy makers. Additional research leave allowed James to be principal investigator and write the report for the joint Arts Council–Durham University Commission on Creativity and Education (2017-19), reflecting on school curricula. He contributed to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Children's Oracy. Chingonyi gave the inaugural Sylvia Winter Lecture in London, addressing the representation of 'people of minoritised subjectivities' in authority positions. Warwick served on the JISC / Elsevier Open Science steering group (2017-19).

(vi) Non-academic collaborations

Departmental impact strategy encourages and funds conversations with non-academic audiences and organizations. Bridges has composed librettos based on her work, including for Durham Vocal Festival (2019). Brljak edited a freely accessible interactive colloquy on allegory for *Arcade*, Stanford University's 'virtual salon' for 'literature, humanities and the world'. James co-curated an exhibition on 'H.G. Wells: Time Traveller' at the University of Illinois Library which won the Leab Exhibition Award (2018). O'Connell is a member of an Irish network 'Gastronomy', collaborating with chefs and catering professionals. Swann co-curated an online exhibition hosted by the Fitzwilliam Museum. Wootton is Co-Director of the International Keats Conference, in partnership with the Keats House in Hampstead and the Keats Foundation. Chingonyi's collaborative poetics of place project includes a residency at Hadrian's Wall.

Contribution to research base and sustainability of the discipline

The department contributes extensively to the research base through:

1. International scholarly editions

Colleagues have led, and contributed to, international collaborative projects, often funded by large grants, leading to major publications which expand the disciplinary research base. As

works of reference in use for many years, authoritative scholarly editions sustain the discipline. The following resulted from multi-person editorial projects in the late medieval and early modern period, romantic studies, and modernism:

- *The Letters of William Godwin*, 6 vols (gen. ed. Clemit)
- *T.S. Eliot's Complete Prose*, vol.4 (Harding)
- *Records of Early English Drama North-East*, 5 vols (McKinnell, Ravelhofer)
- *The Complete Works of James Shirley*, 10 vols (gen. ed. Ravelhofer).

These projects have made archival discoveries widely available to the scholarly community and non-academic audiences.

2. Leadership in new fields of enquiry

The department and University nurture dynamic interdisciplinary research which makes timely and influential interventions, including through inter- and cross-disciplinary dialogue, theoretical work to establish new methodologies, and exploration of previously under-explored archives. Interdisciplinary research is promoted through Centres, Institutes and collaborations (see above), high-profile events and innovative online fora.

The PWE project led by Smith has opened up archives to new audiences, including through social media, to illuminate the history of disinformation. Waugh's work adapts medical humanities approaches to shape new directions in intellectual history, modernism and cognitive studies. This distinctive intellectual initiative is further vitalised by Bernini's work in narratology and cognition and the international research network Cognitive Futures in the Humanities. This emerging research field has resulted in major publications including *The Cognitive Humanities: Embodied Mind in Literature and Culture*, a further AHRC-funded project A History of Distributed Cognition, and Garratt's appointment as general editor of Routledge's three-volume *Nineteenth-Century British Literature and Philosophy*. Woods has been at the forefront of articulating *critical* medical humanities, including through the first edited collection, *The Edinburgh Companion to the Critical Medical Humanities*.

A new emphasis on global humanities enabled by the recruitment strategy is evident in work on South African literatures (Botha), world systems theory (Hartley), Indian and Pakistani women's writing (Mirza), Nigerian writing (Egbunike). Strategic focus on modern conflicts has enabled writing on global risk and transatlantic projects (Harding, Smith, Thomas), and on futurity, anti-racism and feminism (Terry). New methodological work carries potential for the discipline to develop in ways as yet unforeseen: Clark is at the forefront of research in ecocriticism and eco-deconstruction.

3. Organisational Leadership

The department's vitality is demonstrated in leadership offered to national and international organisations, contributing to the longer-term co-operation that sustains the discipline. Waugh was a founding member of the AHRC's 'Science and Culture' advisory panel (2014-17) and has served on the Wellcome Trust's selection and interview panel. She has served on the English RAE and REF panels, as has Robertson who also contributed to the 2018 New Zealand Performance-Based Research Fund Quality Evaluation. Warwick was UK facilitator for the UKRI / Irish Research Council Collaboration in Digital Humanities Research, in which open access and open data are prominent themes. Woods currently chairs the Wellcome Trust Early

Career Researcher Interview Panel and has served on the Expert Review Group since 2017. Garrington's service on the Advisory Council of the Institute of English Studies has a particular emphasis on support for ECRs. Members of staff have served as executive committee or board members for many national and international societies, including International Arthurian Society, British Association of Romantic Studies, British Association for American Studies, International Byron Society, Wordsworth Conference Foundation.

4. Peer Review

As the bedrock of disciplinary standards, all colleagues participate in peer review, internally and externally: experience in external evaluations assists constructive and successful internal reviews (section 3), and encourages challenge and innovation, strengthening rigour, enhancing co-operation, sparking new thought and disseminating good practice. Colleagues undertake appraisals for 30 journals including *Chaucer Review*, *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Psychoanalysis*, *Culture and Society*, *Modern Language Review*, *Review of English Studies*, *LIT*, *Literature and Medicine*, *Open Library of Humanities*, *Contemporary Women's Writing*, *Gender and the Black International*, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, and *PMLA*. Many peer review book proposals and manuscripts for leading publishers of academic books.

Staff review grants for a wide range of funding bodies and research councils, including all major UK funders, Carnegie Trust, and international research councils including the European Science Foundation and funding agencies in Australia, Ireland, Norway, and Switzerland.

5. Editorial work reflects leadership in the field and in academic standards, and encourages good peer review practice. Editors work closely with colleagues across the globe to encourage new work and promote shared understanding and rigorous debate. Colleagues edit leading journals, including one of the foremost theory journals, *Oxford Literary Review* (Clark), a leading medieval journal, *Medium Ævum* (Saunders), and *Notes & Queries* (Robertson).

Many staff have guest-edited journals during this period. Others contribute to editorial boards, providing expert advice and strategic direction to societies and major journals in the discipline, in addition to peer review, for example, *Revue Période*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Textual Practice*, *Year's Work in Critical Theory*. Several staff undertake editorial roles in book series.

6. International research dissemination and conference organisation. Staff have given numerous invited keynote lectures at symposia worldwide, including in Europe: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and beyond: Australia, Canada, India, Japan, Singapore, Turkey and the US, as well as hundreds of other lectures and chairing roles at international conferences.

The department has organised and hosted c.495 conferences, workshops, lectures and other events during the period, including major field conferences such as *Modern Literature, Culture, and the Archives of the Secret State* (2014, funded by the British Academy), *Risking the Future* (2016, with School of Modern Languages and Cultures) and the *Joint Congress of the John Gower Society and Early Book Society* (2018, 150 delegates), welcoming delegates from across the globe.

7. Training, especially for early-career researchers, contributes to the sustainability of the discipline: see above on research students and early-career researchers. Woods won a Wellcome award to train researchers in ten universities through formation of the Northern Network for Medical Humanities Research.

Prizes and Awards

International recognition is reflected in the award of prestigious international fellowships at the University of Stockholm; Australian National University; Humanities Research Centre; and Moore Institute in the University of Galway; as well as a FRIAS (Freiburg) Research Fellowship; DAAD Visiting Professorship, Freie Universität Berlin; Research Associateship, Rikkyo University Tokyo; Royal Literary Fund Fellowship, St Hilda's College, Oxford; Huntington Library Fellowship; and Baylor University Armstrong Browning Library Fellowship.

Waugh's major contribution to the field is reflected in her appointment as Fellow of the British Academy and Fellow of the European Academy. Robertson is Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. Harman and Sahota are Fellows of the Royal Society of Literature, and Harman is President of the Alliance of Literary Societies. Archibald, James, Regan, Saunders and Waugh are Fellows of the English Association.

Such recognition is also reflected in the award of academic prizes including: *The Review of English Studies* Prize (Brljak), Elma Dangerfield Prize awarded by International Association of Byron Societies (Wootton), Distinguished Scholar's Award, Keats-Shelley Association of America (O'Neill), Poetry Book Society Special Commendation (O'Neill), Philip Leverhulme Prize (Smith), Forward Prize for Poetry and Tom-Gallon Award for Short Fiction (Harman), Saboteur Award for Best Novella (Booth), International Dylan Thomas Prize and Somerset Maugham Award (Chingonyi), European Union Prize for Literature, South Bank Sky Arts Award for Literature, and Man Booker Prize shortlist (Sahota).