

Institution: University of Exeter

Unit of Assessment: UoA 28 History

Section 1: Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

1.1 Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

Overview

The UoA's research is distinguished by its wide chronological, geographical and methodological range. It extends from the early Middle Ages to the recent past, from east to west across the whole of Eurasia, Africa, north and south America and Australia, and from robust traditional empirical methods traditionally used in the study of history to innovative developments in digital humanities. The UoA seeks to provide a stimulating and supportive research environment allowing all colleagues to flourish, supporting international collaboration at every career stage, and encouraging interdisciplinary research.

Since 2014 key achievements include:

- **increasing grant income** from around £1 million per annum in the previous REF period to £2.7 million on average per annum 2015-2020 (£20k to £46k per FTE), representing success by colleagues at every career stage, and maximising opportunities for all colleagues.
- **increasing the number of UoA researchers** from 49.5FTE (REF 2014) to 60.05 FTE (62 headcount), building disciplinary resilience.
- **significantly diversifying the global reach of our research expertise and impact**, extending out from Africa, Britain, Europe, North America, Russia and South Asia to include Latin America, East Asia and Australia, through new appointments and significant AHRC, ERC, and Leverhulme funding awards, leading to innovative research and impact to globalise the histories of the early modern Mediterranean and South Asian worlds, twentieth-century medicine, and modern Europe
- **leadership in cross-HASS-STEMM interdisciplinary research and impact** through the establishment of the interdisciplinary **Wellcome Centre for Cultures and Environments of Health (WCCEH)** in 2017, directed by a historian (Jackson), transforming the UoA's long-established strength in medical history. This is complemented by **interdisciplinary research** in other fields, notably modern British history and environmental history.
- **increasing** the range and scale of our research, impact and teaching in heritage and **public history** through collaboration with local, national and international organisations
- **introducing** a strong **Digital Humanities (DH)** component to our research and engagement activities
- **deepening** our critical engagement with decolonisation and racial and gender equality, diversity and inclusion across all research, impact, and teaching.

1.2 Unit context and structure

Reorganised in 2014 into **two separate departments**, based on different campuses, the UoA comprises: 52.5 staff in the History Department at Exeter (hereinafter Exeter) and 9.5 staff in the Humanities Department at Penryn (hereinafter Penryn). Both departments collectively benefit from the presence of 54 honorary research fellows and professors, 16 research-only staff, 3 postdoctoral fixed-term teaching-only staff, and 91 PhD students (55 FTE). The departments belong to the College of Humanities, which provides the same supportive cross-campus research leadership (see the **Institutional Level Environment Statement** (hereinafter ILES) 1.2-3). This strategic organisational change allows both departments to engage with their respective campuses' other different disciplinary strengths, and strengthen their distinctive specialisms, Exeter's in medieval, early modern socio-economic, maritime, modern British politics and policy, imperial, global and medical histories; Penryn's in public history and the environment.

The UoA's **research culture** ensures a mutually supportive environment which enables all students and scholars to undertake individual, collaborative, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research. Colleagues firmly believe in the beneficial relationship between research and teaching and work to include undergraduates, masters and doctoral students, and research staff in their research activities. E.g. from 2017-20 UoA researchers, with internal funding, involved 22 undergraduate and masters students as paid interns on 17 research projects.

Since 2014 the UoA's research activity has expanded alongside a strong commitment to teaching. In Exeter this growth has been accompanied by curriculum changes to incorporate MA students into the departmental research culture via work placements at a range of heritage organisations, and greater involvement in research centres. At Penryn, the successful establishment in 2018 of the innovative interdisciplinary MA International Heritage Management and Consultancy draws primarily on the expertise of History staff, with support from English, Geography, and industry professionals.

The UoA strongly supports **multi-disciplinary** and **interdisciplinary research**. In order to share expertise and ideas in research-based activities staff belong to one or more of 12 research centres/institute, 10 of which have members from several disciplines; UoA staff play major roles in all of them.

	Number of REF-eligible staff members
Exeter-based	
Centre for Early Modern Studies (CEMS)	13
Centre for Imperial and Global History (CIGH)	16
Exeter Centre for Latin American Studies (EXCELAS)	2
Centre for Maritime Historical Studies (CMHS)	3
Centre for Medical History (CMH)	9
Centre for Medieval Studies (CMS)	9
Centre for Violence Studies (CVS)	13
Digital Humanities (DH)	5
Exeter South Asia Centre (ESAC)	3
Wellcome Centre for Cultures and Environments of Health (WCCEH)	2
Penryn-based	
Centre for Environmental Arts and Humanities (CEAH)	6
Institute of Cornish Studies	1

The CMHS is part of a wider interdisciplinary University research collaboration: [Exeter Marine](#). The centres/institute consolidate links across the University and facilitate collaboration with outside organisations and the recruitment of postgraduate students. Researchers also work with colleagues in other Colleges through the University's interdisciplinary International Institute for Cultural Enquiry (hereinafter IIICE; see ILES 1.3) and the WCCEH (see ILES, 2.3); for further details on these collaborations see below and section 4.

These permanent centres and institutes offer the primary framework for supporting individual and collective research for colleagues at every stage and on every type of contract (PGTs, PGRs, PDRAs, teaching-only, research and teaching). Participating in wider university structures, the departmental Directors of Research (DoR) provide overall leadership (ILES 4.2). Centres are represented on Exeter's departmental Research Committee, chaired by the DoR, alongside the Director of Impact (DoI), who supports colleagues to develop impactful research. Centres/institutes regularly co-ordinate activities; for example, through joint workshops of CIGH and EXCELAS, joint seminars between CMS and CMHS. Centres regularly work with other research centres outside the department, such as the joint workshop on 'Heteroglossia' held by ESAC with the Centre for Translation Studies (Modern Languages) in 2017. Staff and students at both campuses often attend each other's events remotely.

Penryn-based centres benefit from strong links to local heritage organisations. The multi-disciplinary CEAH is at the centre of climate and environmental research on both campuses, and a major focus for grant applications and outreach activity e.g. **Whyte** convenes the [Time and Tide Project](#), an interdisciplinary, cross-College collaboration, with colleagues from Camborne School of Mines (Penryn), Archaeology (Exeter) and Perranzabuloe Museum. The interdisciplinary InstCS, co-directed since 2019 by **Tregidga** with researchers in Politics, is central to public history activity in Cornwall through its events programme, *Cornish Studies* journal, and collaboration with local organisations e.g. symposia with Cornwall Council, Cornwall Chamber of Commerce, Cornwall Heritage Trust, and local businesses 2014-16.

In order to support colleagues generate new research ideas and collaborations across the specialisms represented by the centres, Exeter holds regular research events to explore collective themes. Extending across different centres, the themes mobilise interested researchers around areas of mutual interest, breaking down existing chronological, methodological and geographical boundaries. These themes are reviewed regularly at research-away days, and updated to reflect colleagues' changing interests, expertise and membership. The themes for 2020-21 are:

- [Economic and social history](#). Serving as a model, members (including researchers on 3-ERC funded projects) hold a fortnightly blog-led discussion online, involving research students, PDRAs and staff on both campuses.
- Emotions
- Modern Politics and Policy
- Gender

The research centres provide the framework for our **interdisciplinary research and impact environment**, supporting the sharing of academic and impact expertise and contacts amongst researchers, guided by the DoRs and Dols. Researchers across the UoA also have significant engagement with international, national and local bodies (detailed in section 4). **WCCEH** researchers focus explicitly on transforming public and policy engagement with their research. Expertise in heritage and public history crosses both campuses e.g. CEMS researcher **French** (Exeter) and CEAH researcher **Onciul** (Penryn) have each chaired the University's multidisciplinary, cross-campus Heritage Strategy Group which co-ordinates partnerships with important external collaborators. Penryn's particular strengths in this area are well evidenced by the MA programme mentioned above.

Centres help mid-career colleagues access **internal funding streams** for developing and extending research activities nationally and internationally. They nurture researcher development and support the creation of international research networks, as evidenced by the UoA's success in obtaining collaborative awards (see section 3). Examples include support for **Chatterjee, Singh, Williams** (ESAC) to organise two workshops on South Asian history with colleagues and postgraduates from the British Library, other British universities and Lahore University of Management Sciences, Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad, and the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata; for **Hynd** (CIGH) to conduct research in Geneva and Canada on modern humanitarianism; and for **Cox-Jensen** (CEMS) to work with KU Leuven on translations of Classical texts.

1.3 Research integrity and Open Access

Our commitment to upholding research integrity underlies all our research activities, following the University's [commitment](#) to the *Concordat to Support Research Integrity* (ILES 2.9). Ultimate responsibility lies with the University's Research integrity, governance and ethics team. Training is mandatory for PGRs and staff probation and promotion. To ensure all UoA research abides by ethical standards respecting the integrity and well-being of those involved, all research projects (including students') involving human participants must be submitted for ethical review by the Humanities College Ethics Committee, on which both departments are represented by their respective Ethics Officers. Since 2014 College ethical protocols have been improved to encompass oral history, online and other ways of gathering and analysing testimony from living

participants. Members of staff with significant experience in oral history train both staff and students in ethical standards. Researchers at all levels are referred to the appropriate University, national and international codes, and professional codes of conduct. Beyond the University, **Mark** contributed to the Oral History Society's Code in the previous REF period, and served as oral history advisor to two AHRC projects in this; **Fisher** is developing ways of using oral history in public engagement through training young trans people in oral history techniques with professional ethics training (Impact Case Study (ICS) *Transformations*).

Colleagues are committed to the **widest distribution of our research** through **Open Access** (OA) channels and to the promotion of OA within the wider academy. [Open Research Exeter](#) (ORE) provides access to colleagues' research, with over 128,955 downloads 2014-20. The majority (45%) were from the UK, but 21% from USA, 4% China, 2% India, testifying to our research's global reach. ORE makes publicly available non-sensitive research data, retaining it indefinitely in accordance with the University's and JISC protocols (for example, **Chatterjee's** '[Privy Council Papers](#)' database). Colleagues also upload research to standard external OA repositories including Academia and Research Gate. Since 2014 some 29 works have been published with Gold OA costing £55,289; in 2019 only 40% of such publications were supported by external grants. Exeter's [DH](#) Lab promotes OA by developing digital platforms for historical documents and datasets (see section 3.4 for examples).

As officers **Toye** (co-literary director) and **Hamilton** (Hon. Treasurer, 2015-19) participated in the Royal Historical Society (RHS)'s contributions to UKRI OA policy-making. As co-editor, **Vargha** helped shape the *Social History of Medicine's* response to the Wellcome Trust's OA mandate. Other contributions to OA scholarship include **Sangha** as editorial board member of the *Paper Trails Books as Open Online Content* (UCL Press) series and **Anderson** as co-PI for the Harvard-National Endowment for the Humanities-funded online database, [liberatedafricans.org](#).

1.4 Research and impact strategy 2014-2020

The UoA's research and impact strategy had five aims in this REF period; these have all been achieved or exceeded.

- **To maintain or increase our research income from outside bodies.** Mean research income from external funders has increased by 173% from previous REF period to £2,735k per annum (2015/16-2019/20), enhancing our ability to do new research, allowing us to sustain recruitment from 52.7 FTE PGRs in 2013/14 to 55 PGRs in 2018/19, and creating opportunities for all researchers to take regular study leave.
- **To continue increased internationalisation of our research.** We have strengthened our international links with academics in other countries, through some 24 funded collaborative research projects, participation in international research networks and recruitment of some 21 international PGRs (see sections 2, 3 and 4).
- **To continue to develop and strengthen collaborations with non-academic bodies.** We have developed and strengthened our collaborations with non-academic bodies through research projects and placements for MAs and PhD students (see section 2); deepened existing collaborations, including those with the Historical Association, Brooks Advisory Trust, South West Heritage Trust, and World Health Organisation; and formed new relationships with leading non-HEI partners including the International Red Cross. The ICSs represent merely our strongest examples.
- **To raise the public profile of history through work with schools, the media and policy bodies.** Members have worked with heritage organisations, schoolteachers and schools, the wider community, the media, government and other public bodies and NGOs to publicise their research and ensure the viability of publicly funded historical research in the longer term (see ICS *WW1 Centenary* and section 4).
- **To continue to develop undergraduate teaching in ways that stimulate students' interest in the latest research and the development of staff-research goals.** The UoA remains committed to involving undergraduates in on-going research, through internships, teaching and voluntary activities such as the [Hypatia](#) project: 50+ taught students have

contributed entries for over 1200 items to this website showcasing the University's Special Collections of books and journals by or about women.

1.5 Future Research and Impact Strategy

To ensure all staff continue to contribute to, and enrich, the UoA's vibrant research culture, the following objectives have been collectively agreed:

- **Enhancing our research sustainability.** Building upon our research achievements in 2014-20, we will seek to develop our existing areas of specialisation including imperial and global history, medical history and public history whilst maintaining the geographic breadth, depth and methodological diversity of our research. We will extend our involvement in, and leadership of, **interdisciplinary research**, developing the cross-STEMM/HASS research of WCCEH and CEAH into other areas by participating in the University's cross-College Research Institutes, especially the Environmental Sustainability Institute, the Institute for Data Sciences and Artificial Intelligence and IICE (see ILES 1.3).
- **Enhancing the international reach of our research.** Supporting researchers to strengthen existing research links and develop new ones with academics outside, as well as inside, the UK, and in History and other disciplines, to develop disciplinary leadership by working collaboratively, participating in networks, and cultivating student placements and recruitment, and staff exchanges.
- **Developing further our culture of research impact and engagement** by strengthening and diversifying our collaborations with non-academic bodies and commercial organisations, public bodies, policy makers, NGOs and other third-sector organisations, via PhD placements, Collaborative Doctoral Award-funded PhDs, joint research projects and enhanced knowledge exchange.
- **Supporting academic careers through ensuring an equitable, diverse and inclusive (EDI) research environment** in line with the Researcher Development Concordat (ILES 3.8) by ensuring all members of our research community take into account their ethical responsibilities regarding equality, diversity and inclusivity in disability, ethnicity, gender, race and sexuality, and the environment when undertaking individual and collective research, teaching, and contributing to the research community. We will do this by building on the EDI work begun in 2014-20. Exeter will expand its EDI commitments to focus upon the needs of BAME and international researchers, as well as implementing the Athena Swan recommendations (see section 2.3).
- **Re-centring our approach to history away from largely western and European paradigms** by building on the diversification of our global expertise and formalising the 'feedback' loop between innovative teaching practices and new research at all levels, capitalising on our specialism in global history.

Covid-19 has highlighted the **resilience of the UoA's research culture**. Despite being prevented from travelling to libraries, archives and physical conferences, and taking up placements, UoA researchers' activities have continued since March 2020, taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the shift to virtual communities. CEMS, CIGH, CMS and WCCEH have organised virtual reading groups (some led by PGRs) and master classes to support PhDs and PDRAs. These developments, alongside the support provided by the DH Lab (see section 3.4), will stand the UoA in good stead, given likely changes in the future conduct of research and our environmental commitments. ESAC organised a successful virtual international PGR workshop (see 1.2 above). **Hamilton's** on-line RHS public lecture (May 2020) received more than 1200 views. Staff across the UoA have addressed a wide range of other virtual audiences nationally and internationally.

Covid-19 has prompted new research in contemporary British and medical history. In July 2020 **Lawrence** contributed to an ESRC '[Northern Exposure](#)' interdisciplinary network webinar on Pandemic Politics in Northern England. **Vargha** contributed to major virtual international academic events on the pandemic; a member of the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Western Pacific Regional Office Historical Epidemics Think Tank, she is shaping policymaking to improve future global public health strategies. **Fisher's** work is at the cutting edge of co-creating resources with

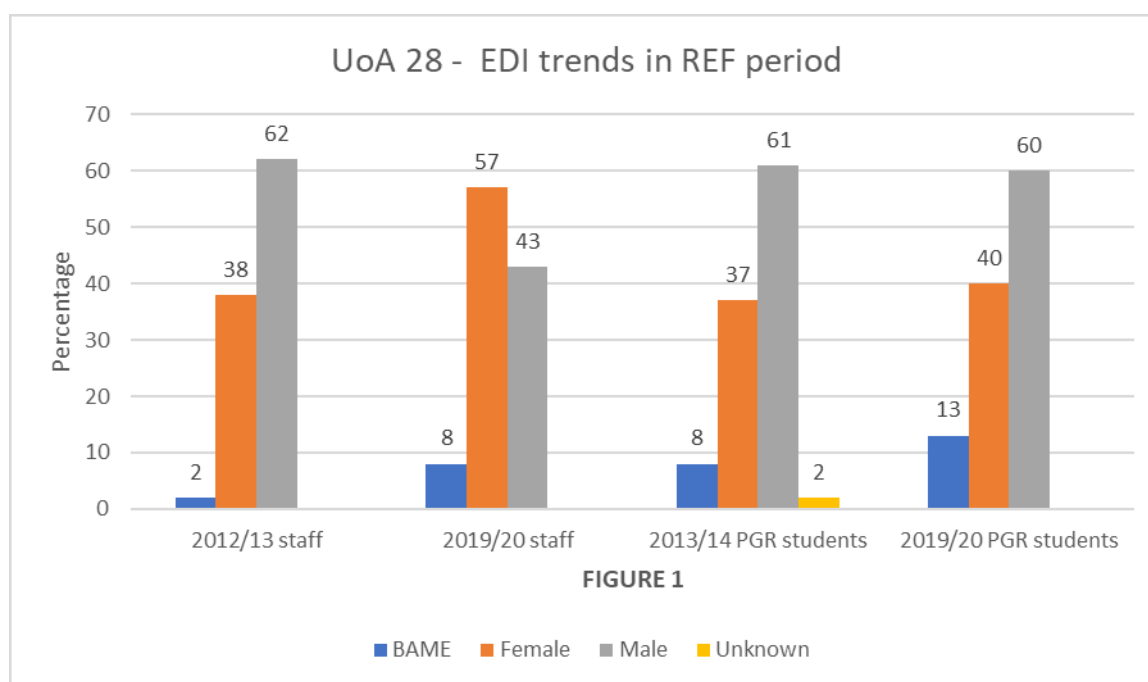
young people during the pandemic to amplify LGBTI+ voices (ICS *Transformations*). **Jackson** co-wrote a WHO paper on ways of transitioning to the 'new normal' post-Covid.

In 2014 we were a large, dynamic UoA with the ambition to build on existing successes in expanding the intellectual, economic, geographical and cultural horizons of our research. In achieving these goals over the subsequent seven years we have created a UoA with structures and resources that will enable us to fulfil our greater ambitions regarding research sustainability, interdisciplinarity, internationalisation, public engagement, and equality, diversity and inclusivity.

Section 2: People

Developed within the framework of the Researcher Development Concordat and the University's policies (see ILES 3), our UoA's main intention since 2014 has been to develop an increasingly diverse, supportive and inclusive environment in which all our researchers will flourish, regardless of background.

Having expanded significantly from 49.5 staff FTE in 2014, the UoA currently comprises a more diverse body of 60.5 staff FTE. Over this period our PGR body has also become more ethnically diverse, and there have been improvements to the gender balance among staff members. Figure 1 demonstrates the UoA's progress in driving diversity.



2.1 Staffing Strategy

Since 2014 we have sought to improve the diversity of our research staff. We appointed a significant number of colleagues at an early stage in their career across the 2010s (33 appointed since 2012), subsequently supporting them to develop their careers to become research leaders.

Exeter's **recruitment strategy** since 2014 has been to increase the global spread of our research expertise and deepen our engagement with the challenges of decolonisation, race, ethnicity, equality and diversity; to strengthen research in public history and heritage; to deepen and develop Digital and Medical Humanities approaches to participatory, engaged research; and to reinforce and develop our existing research strengths. **Anderson, De Waal** and **Vandrei** have reinforced Penryn Humanities' established research strengths in public history, while internationalising it through European, West African and Trans-Atlantic History.

We made 21 **appointments** since 2014, including 16 researchers to their first permanent lectureship (**Anderson, Antic, GClark, Davey, de Waal, Espelt Bombín, Gao, Xiangwei Guo, Hanley, Lippiatt, Matthieu, Rupprecht, Spaskovska, Vandrei, Vargha, Ward**); 3 researchers to senior lectureships (**Finn** and **Knight Lozano** to lead the Liberal Arts programme, and **Paul** to enhance existing strengths in early modern economic and social history); and 1 to an associate professorship, now professor (**Lawrence**).

5 staff have retired (**Booth; Melling; Overton; Morriss; Black; Overy**). 9 staff moved to other academic posts: 3 professors – **Barton** (Central Florida); **Thompson** (Oxford); **Thorpe** (Leeds); 5 lecturers – (**Jones**, Oxford), **Barker** (Leeds), **Fletcher** (Warwick), **Ma** (Sheffield), **Rupprecht** (Berlin); and 1 senior lecturer – (**Paul**, UCLA); 1 left for personal reasons.

We attracted five competitively funded **postdoctoral fellows** (PDFs) since 2014, further enhancing our research community. **Leikin** (eighteenth-century Russian maritime history) and **Lin** (twentieth-century Russian-Chinese history) chose to hold their British Academy postdoctoral fellowships (PDFs) in Exeter, testifying to our reputation in globalising European history. We also recruited and supported PDFs into permanent positions including modernists **Fairfax-Cholmeley** and **Hanley** (British Academy PDFs) and medievalist **Lippiatt** (Leverhulme ECF).

The UoA's leadership is working hard to support all current staff to develop their research careers at Exeter, mindful of our equality, diversity and inclusivity commitments. Our future strategy is to maintain the current reach of our research, whilst developing its interdisciplinary aspects.

2.2 Staff development and promotions

The **policies** arising from the University's being a signatory of the Concordat for Researcher Development and DORA (see ILES 2.9, 3.3), and its work with Stonewall and participation in the annual Workplace Equality Index, as well as its responsibilities to support disabilities, provide the **framework** for History's formal and informal support of staff development.

We use the University's **workload model** (ILES 3.4) to support colleagues at all career stages. New recruits at every stage are helped to establish their research at Exeter through reductions in education and administrative workloads, in accordance with College-wide norms. All researchers are also allocated 20% of their workload for research and impact activities.

Central to History's **formal support** is the **Academic Lead** (AL) system (see ILES 3.6). Chosen from senior staff, ALs are responsible for mentoring 7-10 researchers and conducting their Performance Development Review; Athena Swan (see 2.3 below) instituted formal feedback systems on their effectiveness. ALs help identify when colleagues are ready for promotion, advise on training needs, building a promotion case, on sources of internal research funding and support, and on preparing external research applications. ALs monitor and support staff **well-being**, guiding them towards the University's extensive [support](#) which can also be accessed independently; with the HoD they advise those with particular needs on how to access University support and resources as needed (ILES 3.15-17). The ALs together with the Head of Department (HoD) and Directors of Research (DoR) and Education (DoE) constitute the Department Strategy Group (DSG), which has responsibility for overseeing the allocation of administrative roles, teaching and research using the University's workload model (ILES 3.4), and also developing departmental strategy and policies; following staff feedback, Exeter's Group now includes two elected staff members to ensure representation of all career stages. Research centres provide **peer-to-peer informal support** through detailed discussions of new research ideas involving staff at every career stage.

All permanent research staff are entitled to **research leave**. Most staff members can expect to have a period of six-months research leave at least once every three and a half years. 61 periods of research leave have been awarded (27M, 34F) to 51 different members of staff since 2014, including 19 staff for whom it was their first period of leave since being appointed to a permanent

post and 3 staff on part-time contracts. As many staff have research leave funded by external grants, those with strong research plans who apply for university-funded leave are supported. To ensure equality and diversity Human Resources professional staff join the College panels which allocate research leave.

All researchers received a **research allowance** of £1000 per annum (2014-20) to support conference attendance, research visits, and fund external scholars to come to Exeter to develop research collaborations for those who are prevented from travelling by caring responsibilities.

Other **internal forms of research support** are advertised to all staff, with criteria-driven application processes. Drawing on that offered through the University's Global Engagement service (ILES 4.11), for example, more than 15 colleagues have been able to develop their research profile by building their academic networks and research collaborations with international scholars informally with 15 European, 7 South Asian, 6 Chinese, 1 Australian and several North American universities; their success is evidenced in section 4.2. Working with the University's Innovation, Impact and Business services, the DoI has helped more than 13 colleagues develop links and establish formal agreements with non-academic organisations to support engaged research, as evidenced in section 4.3.

Promotion is open to all staff through the University's criteria-based career progression model (ILES 3.3); the conduct of regular reviews ensures all eligible staff are identified and encouraged to apply. The success of History's commitment to equality and diversity is evidenced by the large number of **promotions** since 2014, particularly for women and BAME colleagues.

- 21.3 FTE lecturers promoted to senior lecturer (14.3 female, 7 male), including two BAME colleagues.
- 8 senior lecturers promoted to associate professor (AP) (5 female, 3 male), including one BAME colleague.
- 3 associate professors promoted to professor: 2 female, 1 male.

As a consequence, History has undergone a transformation in the **proportion of all staff who are female** at more senior levels as follows:

Grade	2012/13	2019/20
Lecturers	61%	41%
Senior Lecturers/Associate Professors	33%	48%
Professors	20%	38%

We tailor our support to colleagues at different career stages:

Early career researchers. The high number of early career researchers in this period has made the needs of this group particularly pressing (ILES 3.8-9). New permanent appointees are enrolled on the 'Academic Professional' programme which provides training and networking opportunities and assigns a series of targets through probation (ILES 3.5). In addition to the workload and research leave policies outlined above, we have a two-stage internal review system to help colleagues write research applications. ALs and the DoR advise on preparing the applications; the DoR allocates a senior colleague close to their research interests to mentor their application. All draft applications are then peer reviewed within the department, and reviewers and the DoR work with colleagues to improve the draft. Colleagues at all stages are encouraged to circulate publications in early draft for comment by fellow researchers. The success of our support is evidenced by the 21.2 FTE colleagues promoted from lecturer to senior lecturer in this REF period, and by the 16 colleagues successful in external grant competitions, including **Bridger (now Senior Lecturer)**, appointed 2017, awarded a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship 2019. Our support for PDRAs is exemplified by the after-careers of 3 PDRAs on **Mark's 1989 after 1989** project:

Richardson-Little and **Grosescu** are both leading major €1M independent projects funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung and ERC; **Spaskovska** has a permanent lectureship at Exeter.

We advise colleagues in more precarious positions on how to develop their research profile and career. As a consequence of peer advice on publications, one colleague, employed on successive fixed-term teaching-only contracts, developed their research profile and was appointed to a permanent E&R post. Research staff who are in post for more than one-year have an Academic Lead; those on shorter term contracts are advised by the project leader.

Mid-career researchers. This group faces considerable challenges, balancing increasing administrative and teaching responsibilities with research. Mindful of this, DSGs work with ALs to identify appropriate offices as a pathway to leading roles: these include convening core undergraduate modules with a large number of teaching assistants, Senior Tutor, Directors of Postgraduate Research and Impact. We support staff in external development opportunities, sponsoring 4 UoA members on the women's leadership development programme, [Aurora](#). This group has particularly benefited from the internal funding opportunities to support international collaboration outlined above. Colleagues have thus been supported to develop more complex research projects: for example, **Vargha**, promoted 2019, awarded both a Wellcome Collaborative Research Award and an ERC Starting grant 2020 for a new global history of medicine incorporating socialist medicine.

Senior researchers are encouraged to engage with opportunities appropriate to their career-stage and research specialisms. The HoD mentors colleagues serving as ALs. Those serving in significant leadership positions (HoD, DoE, DoR) are generally supported with research leave at their end of office; this policy was extended to the co-chairs of the Athena SWAN application process. Colleagues are supported to apply for senior fellowships (e.g. **Thomas's** Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship on *Globalising Decolonisation*), major grants, and to accept visiting fellowships (e.g. **Mark's** Fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Studies, Netherlands), and to contribute to the leadership of the discipline nationally and internationally (see sections 3.1, 4.4).

2.3 Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)

Since 2014 the UoA has worked hard to improve equality, diversity and inclusivity with regards to gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality and disability (ILES 3.14-16). The UoA REF Output Selection Panel membership was explicitly chosen with EDI criteria in mind to ensure representation by gender, ethnicity, early career staff, part-time staff, and all the major research groups, as well as REF-panel experience: the membership, including the College EDI Officer, is 9F, 7M. All members undertook unconscious bias training and worked to ensure the UoA's return is representative of the career stage, gender, ethnicity, employment status and research interests of all colleagues.

The UoA provides EDI leadership at College level. The College EDI officer is currently a historian (**Sangha**), chairing the College's Inclusion Group (whose members include both Departments' EDI Officers). This group oversees EDI policies and their implementation to ensure staff are managed consistently across Departments and the robustness of processes for reporting and addressing bullying, harassment, and discrimination.

At departmental level, Exeter History submitted its Athena SWAN Bronze Award application in November 2020, which took into account the RHS's reports on *Gender Equality and Historians* (2015, 2018) and *Race, Ethnicity and Equality* (2018). This application's data informed this statement, and the application process itself has driven changes to improve not just gender but structures to ensure equality and inclusivity more broadly across the department. In 2020-21 it will take into account the RHS's report *LGBT+ Histories and Historians* (2020). The application process resulted in the setting up of an EDI sub-committee with 12 members, represented on DSG by the co-chair, **Whittle** (Prof). The application identified some 48 actions to improve staff

experience, especially for early career staff and those with caring responsibilities; many have consequences for all staff, regardless of gender, and are already being implemented e.g. there is now teaching relief for all staff returning from parental leave.

The University enables via its HR policies flexible and part-time working to support work-life balance and returning to work after a career break both on a temporary and permanent basis. In 2019/20 4 UoA members were part-time (2 female, 2 male). Across the REF period 11 female and 7 male colleagues took parental leave.

2.4 Research Students

2.4.1 Recruitment and Funding. Postgraduate students constitute a vital component of our **research community** on both campuses. Since REF 2014 the UoA has successfully graduated 87.9 FTE PhD students. Numbers of FTE PhD students remained stable across the REF period (52.7 in 2014/15, 55 in 2018/19), reflecting our commitment to maintaining quality in PGR supervision. In the next REF cycle we are confident that there is further potential for sustainable growth in this area. The data masks some significant innovations in the makeup of the current cohort. Exeter has particular strengths in offering part-time and distance-learning options to PhD students, and has a growing number of funded doctoral researchers engaged in Collaborative Doctoral Award (CDA) projects, working with an external partner. We have an increasing number of international students, and a healthy diversity of UKRI and charity funding streams.

Part-time students constituted 38% of MPhil/PhD registrations in 2019/20. The gender profile of PhD students also varies more markedly between part-time and full-time: in 2017-8 part-time students were 50% female, 50% male whilst full time were 40% female, 60% male.

As a member of AHRC South Wales and West (SWW) DTP1 and 2 and ESRC South West DTP, our successful recruitment of PhD students has taken place amidst increasing competition for funding since 2014. AHRC SWW DTP -- a consortium of 8 institutions -- offered 270 studentships 2014-18; AHRC SWW DTP2 includes 10 institutions with 200 studentships 2019-24. Through these DTPs and other funders, we are proactive in seeking funding for PhD students and building collaborative supervisory teams. In 2019/20, 10.5% students received AHRC DTP funding, 2.6% ESRC (equivalent to 2 FTE), 22% had University-funded and externally-funded scholarships including Wellcome Trust Awards. The quality of our CDA researchers is reflected in the diversity of awards and partnerships, specifically with the British Telecom Archives, the National Trust, the RAF Museum and Tewkesbury Abbey. Others are funded via grants from the ERC, HERA, and Leverhulme Trust. We have attracted funded overseas students, including a Chinese Scholarship Council PhD studentship and one Commonwealth Scholarship. Other students have been funded by split-site studentships including 2 with [QUEX](#), 1 with Hong Kong University, and dual PhDs with Genoa and VU Brussels.

The University's Doctoral College oversees **recruitment** (on specialist advice from UoA colleagues), **progression** and **examination** (ILES 3.11-12). The departmental Directors of PGR (DPGR) run annual induction events on both campuses. All students are supervised by a doctoral team of two supervisors and, in 16 cases in 2019/20, this is demonstrably interdisciplinary, with History staff collaborating with colleagues in Anthropology, Archaeology, AHVC, Classics, English, Geography, Islamic Studies, Law, Politics, Sociology, and Theology as well as across campuses.

2.4.2 Our PhD students contribute enormously to the intellectual vibrancy of our research culture. We are committed to ensuring they are welcomed and integrated into all aspects of the UoA's **research culture**, and to anticipating and responding to their needs. This responsiveness is demonstrated by the reading group/workshop programmes run by CEMS, CMS, CIGH and ESAC during lockdown April-July 2020 (section 1.5). Upon starting, PhD (and MA) students are anchored in the relevant research centres. Postgraduates contribute significantly to research centre activity by organising and participating in reading groups, workshops, conferences, and blogs.

Postgraduates run their own on-line journal, [Ex-Historia](#), which features peer-reviewed articles from postgraduates within and outside the University.

PhD students are expected to present at least one research-based paper in the University during their studies. Their research is nurtured by, and greatly stimulates our research centres and seminar series which regularly include PhD research (e.g., CIGH hold termly PhD seminars and CMS holds an annual postgraduate seminar). As they progress PhDs also benefit significantly from interactions with scholars in their fields in universities with which Exeter and Penryn have strong connections. For example, CEMS runs an annual conference with Cardiff and Bristol Universities, and CMH one with Bristol. The College of Humanities' annual interdisciplinary postgraduate conference offers them further opportunities. All PhD students receive £200 per annum FTE (£100 if part-time), to attend conferences or travel to libraries and archives.

2.4.3 Academic Support. Progress is monitored annually by the departments and College via report forms from students and supervisors; where problems are identified **supervisors work with the student**, Doctoral College and other University services (including Health and Wellbeing Support Services) to support them. **Pastoral tutors** advise on welfare issues, with the support of a dedicated PGR Humanities **wellbeing** officer. All supervisions and training are prompted and recorded electronically via the 'MyPGR' system, following the University's Code of Practice which sets out the expectations of staff and students for PGR supervision; missed meetings are flagged to prevent serious problems emerging (ILES 3.11-3.13). Upgrade vivas are conducted within 12-18 months of registration by 2 academics from outside the supervisory team; to ensure consistency one academic is normally the History PGR Upgrade Co-ordinator, the other a research specialist.

Supervisors identify **individual training needs** in conversation with PhD students at the start of each academic year, advising on the Doctoral College's extensive programme of mandatory and optional student training (see ILES 3.12). AHRC- and ESRC DTP-funded students have access to further specialist training through these consortia. Supervisors work with the DPGR to ensure that PhD students' research needs are also met on a bespoke basis: provision made in recent years includes training in ancient and modern languages, GIS, medieval and early modern palaeography, quantitative techniques, oral history, engaged research and digital humanities.

In response to student feedback asking for careers advice, Exeter History's DPGR (**Hynd**) developed an annual **history-specific series of career development workshops** in 2014 to support our PhD students' research and diverse careers. The success of this programme (see student destinations below) resulted in it being expanded across Humanities and Social Sciences 2017-19. Exeter History also offers specialist support co-delivered with academics elsewhere. E.g. In addition to that provided by ESAC (see section 1.2), **Hynd** and **Thompson** were co-leads of the [Global Humanitarianism Research Academy](#) (2015-19) between the University of Mainz, the University of Exeter and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, providing training and career guidance on histories of humanitarianism to 12 PGR and ECR research fellows annually.

2.4.4 We support our research students with **training and career development** in teaching. From their second year onwards, all our postgraduates are offered postgraduate teaching assistant (PTA) opportunities on undergraduate programmes. Before taking up this role they are required to shadow current PTAs, and to undertake the University's mandatory Learning and Teaching in Higher Education programme. They can also complete an optional assessment resulting in an Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy which supports those who proceed to academic careers.

The UoA also supports research students with bespoke training in impact and knowledge exchange through high-profile **internships and placements**. Since 2014 these include ones with the International Labour Organization, BBC, Library of Congress and Houses of Parliament.

Several have led to successful postdoctoral careers: one PhD student's placement with BBC 4 programme development in Bristol led to a career with a US advertising company.

A testament to the success of our various programmes is that **twelve** of our PhD students graduating since 2014 have gone on to **academic posts** in the UK and abroad: **Bridger** (2016), African history, and **Spaskovska** (2014), modern European history, both appointed to Exeter; **Charnock** (2016), modern British history, University of Bristol; **Freeman** (2015), Digital Humanities, University of Bristol; **Heaslip** (2019), maritime history, University of Portsmouth; **Jones** (2016), medical history, University of Bristol; **Humbert** (2014), modern French history, University of Manchester; **Ouahes** (2017), modern European, Marbella International University; **Patterson** (2016), modern history, Carleton College, Minnesota, USA; **Lavoie** (2016), philosophical history, Middlesex Community College, Boston, USA; **Coker** (2015), Russian history, Brewton-Parker College, Georgia, USA; **Yildzeli** (2017), British history, University of Bilecik Aseyh, Edebalı, Turkey.

Others are successfully pursuing **postdoctoral researcher careers**: 2 medievalists have been awarded Leverhulme Study Abroad Studentships to spend 2 years in Madrid and Vienna respectively (**Witcombe** 2019, **Chadwick** 2018); 2 medical historians have been appointed PDRAs in the WCCEH (**Cooper** 2018) and Strathclyde (**Nias**, 2018), and 1 is PDF at Edinburgh (**Kanazawa** 2019); 2 early modern socio-economic historians hold PDFs in Cambridge, one a BA PDF (**Rhodes** 2019, **Mansell** 2017); 1 modern Europeanist a fellowship in Jena (**Calori** 2019); 1 Africanist (**Alanamu**, 2015) a Leverhulme ECF at Kent; and 1 global imperial historian is a PDRA at Glasgow (**Chin**, 2017). Others have been appointed to teaching-only University posts: **Hernandez** (2015), American history, at Exeter History; **Peplow** (2015), British History, at Warwick.

Some PGRs are pursuing successful careers in the **heritage sector** e.g. British modernist **Mackley** (2016) is now an archivist for the Bodleian Library. Others have gone on to successful careers in NGOs: **Wilson**, medieval history (2012), served as CEO of the Brilliant Club (2012-2019), a leading UK university access charity; **Feiner**, medical history (2018), works for the British Heart Foundation.

2.4.5 All supervisors and pastoral tutors are required to undertake mandatory formal training (ILES 3.12). In addition, our system of assigning two supervisors ensures early career colleagues acquire significant supervision experience ahead of assuming the role of lead supervisor. The demands on staff in all three roles are recognised in the departmental workload model. The DPGR is supported by a specialist administrative team in the Doctoral College.

Our community of research staff and students flourishes even more now than it did in 2014 because of its increased diversity, its enhanced career and professional development opportunities, and strengthened connections within and beyond the University and HEI sector.

Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Since 2014 there has been a transformational change in History's research income across all research areas, and substantial investment in research resources and facilities benefiting all colleagues.

3.1 Drawing on the University professional support (ILES 4.6-4.13) History has increased its **research income** substantially. Forty colleagues, from all career stages, have been awarded 117 grants, generating total grant income of £16.46M since 2013/14; annual mean income per FTE (2015/16 to 2019/20) has risen 130% to £46k. This growth allows us to improve the quality and reach of our research, through support for our PhD and postdoctoral community, and our impact and knowledge exchange work. This success has been achieved by colleagues at all career stages: 20 who won grants were female (5 professors, 13 senior lecturers/APs, 2 lecturers), 20

were male (10 professors, 10 senior lectures/APs), and 1 BAME (3 awards). 50% of total grant income was won by women, including 100% of ERC income (£ 3.4M).

Major funded research projects led by colleagues at Exeter are to be found **across the different research centres** within the UoA. They include:

CMS: Hamilton (F), *After Empire* (HERA: 2016-2019, €1.1M, Exeter £107k); in partnership with Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Freie Universität Berlin, St Andrews, and the Historical Association; 1 PhD student); publications supported include 'Medieval Curses'.

CEMS: Whittle (F), *Women's Work in Rural England, 1500-1700* (Leverhulme Trust: 2015-18, £231k), 1 PDRA, 1 PhD, resulting in 'The gender division of labour' article; *Forms of Labour* (ERC: 2019-24, £1.24M), 3 PDRAs, 1 PhD.

CMHS: Fusaro (F), *Average Transaction Costs and Risk Management during the First Globalization* (ERC consolidator grant: 2017-2022, £1.3M), 2 PDRAs, 4 PhD students.

ESAC: Chatterjee (F), *Forms of Law in the Early Modern Persianate World* (ERC starter grant, 2016-21, £857k), 2 PDRAs, resulting in her book *Negotiating Mughal Law*.

CMH and WCCEH: Barry (M), *Medical practice in Early Modern England, Wales and Ireland, c. 1500-1715* (Wellcome Trust 2012-18, £907k), 6 PDRAs; **Jackson (M)**, *Lifestyle, Health and Disease* (Wellcome Trust, £1.067M), 2 PDRAs, 2 PhDs, informing ICS *Embedding*; **Fisher (F)**, *Rethinking Sexology* (Wellcome Trust, 2017-21 £421k) 3 PDRAs, 1 PhD student, informing ICS *Transformations*. The WCCEH (£4M 2017-21, £1.43M follow-on 2022-4) supports 2 History PDRAs.

CIGH: Lawrence (M), CI in collaboration with the Alan Turing Institute, *Living with Machines* (UKRI Strategic Priorities Fund/ AHRC, 2019-23 £9.2M in total, Exeter £249k). **Mark (M)**, *Socialism Goes Global* (AHRC, 2014-18, £437k) 3 PDRAs, in partnership with colleagues from UCL, Oxford, Leipzig, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Columbia, and Belgrade, and *1989 after 1989* (Leverhulme Trust, 2014-19, £972k) 5 PDRAs, 1 PhD, resulting in *1989: A Global History of Eastern Europe* (Cambridge, 2019). **Thompson (M)**, AHRC Theme Leader Fellow for Care for the Futures: *Afterlives of Empire* (AHRC, £842k). **Toye (M)** and **Thackeray (M)**, *The Age of Promises* (Leverhulme Trust, 2017-20, £151k) – 2 PhDs

CVS: Curless (M) and **Thomas (M)**: *Understanding Insurgencies* (Leverhulme Trust, £117k), a research network including scholars from Exeter, Coimbra, Glasgow, the Royal Netherland Institute of South East Asian and Caribbean Studies, Leiden, Montreal, Oxford, Rouen, Versailles, and Warwick.

Penryn: Pennell (F): *Teaching and Learning War: Education and Modern Conflict in an International Comparative Perspective* (AHRC, £45k), a research network involving Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand), Universities of Northumbria (UK), and Newcastle (Australia), KCL, UCL, IWM, IoE, Australian War Memorial, Canadian War Museum, and Museum of New Zealand/Te Papa Tongawera, which informs ICS *First World War*. Pennell is also CI on the 'Education, Justice and Memory Network' (AHRC (GCRF)), a £2M project in partnership with the Universities of Bristol and Cardiff, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Royal University of Law and Economics, Cambodia, Lahore University of Management Science, Pakistan; and civil society partners in Cambodia, Colombia, Pakistan and Uganda. **Allerfeldt (M)**, *'Negating Humanity': Modern Slavery in its Historical Context and its Implications for Policy*, AHRC, £71k, a collaboration with the Gangmasters Licensing Authority, working with Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, academics from the US, South Africa and the UK.

Since REF2014 the UoA's strategy has been to diversify income sources, resulting in grants from more than 18 organisations including AHRC (£4M), ERC (£3.4M), Wellcome Trust (£2.3M), Leverhulme Trust (£997k), ESRC (£292k). Other funders include the Academy of Medical Sciences, the British Academy, Heritage Lottery Fund, Independent Social Research Foundation, and MRC. Individual research has been supported by AHRC Leadership fellowships (**Thackeray, Roach**), Leverhulme Fellowships (**Thomas**), Wellcome Fellowship (**Withey**), and British Academy Awards (**Antic, Birkett, Chatterjee, GClark, Cox Jensen, Fairfax-Cholmeley, Fusaro, Rendle, Rider, Rowe, Thackeray**). Early career colleagues have enjoyed noticeable successes including: **Curless** (M, appointed 2013), awarded an ESRC Future Leaders Fellowship 2013-16; **Bridger** (F, appointed 2017), awarded a UKRI FLF in 2019; **Antic** (F, appointed 2016) awarded an ERC-starter grant in 2019.

3.2 The University's libraries on the Streatham and Penryn campuses remain central to our **scholarly infrastructure**. The UoA's research also benefits from archives held in Special Collections and the University's Bill Douglas Cinema Museum. InstCS and CAEH researchers benefit from over 40 collections connected to the region's mining, linguistic and political heritage.

Since REF2014 there has been considerable investment in **digital library** resources, through the University's 21st Century Library initiative, led by **Whittle** (additional expenditure 2016/17-2020/21 of £1.6M above routine spend) (ILES 4.15). Research groupings across the UoA have benefited from subscriptions to 60+ significant electronic resources comprising original papers and journals, on top of existing subscriptions to some of the main resources for historical research: *Patrologia Latina*, Early English Books Online, Eighteenth-Century Collections Online, Mass Observation, Nineteenth-Century Pamphlets and Periodicals Online, Foreign Broadcast Information Service Daily Reports, ProQuest News and Newspapers. This extra investment has supported the acquisition of digital resources across the UoA's different research specialisms including:

- **CMS**: *Acta Sanctorum*;
- **CEMS** and **CMHS**: State Papers Online Parts 1-4, and Eighteenth-Century Journals Portal.
- **CMH** and **WCCEH**: LBQT Magazine Archive; Sex and Sexuality (Kinsey Institute Library and Special Collections)
- **CVS**, **CIGH**: Colonial Law in Africa, 1808-1966; Foreign Office Files for China 1919-1980; *Pravda and Izvestiia and Voprosy Istorii* archives; Chatham House Archive; Dublin Castle Records; BBC Listener Research Department Records 1937-1950; BBC Handbooks, Reports and Accounts
- **ESAC**: Foreign Office Files for Pakistan and Afghanistan 1947-1980; East India Company Archives

In addition, staff have access to an unlimited number of Inter-library loans; PhDs have 20 free p.a. (10 if part-time), increased when necessary with support from their supervisor.

3.3 The UoA, supported by the University, has **strengthened its links to local archives**, through formal agreements, including with the South West Heritage Trust which manages records offices in Devon and Somerset; local archives in Dorset and Cornwall; and the libraries and archives of Exeter and Wells Cathedrals (**JClark** is on Exeter's Advisory Board). **Tregidga** leads the InstCS's ongoing project, the *Cornish AudioVisual Archive*.

3.4 The University has invested £1.2M in **physical infrastructure and staffing** for Digital Humanities. The bespoke cross-disciplinary [DH Lab](#) includes a seminar room, two photography labs for 2D digitisation, specialist 3D scanning and printing, and an AV recording and editing suite, supported by a team of 10 specialists. They support UoA staff with developing their own research and with funded research, including digitisation of 9368 judicial appeals records to the Privy Council from British Empire and Commonwealth 1792-1998 for **Chatterjee's** AHRC Network, [Subjects of Law](#) (2012-14); datasets for **Fusaro's** ERC project, [Average Transaction Costs](#); and a digitisation documentary project for **Chatterjee's** ERC project [Forms of Law](#) which is innovating in the application of existing technologies to the digitisation of documents written in right to left

scripts. The DH Lab strengthens the UoA's relations with local heritage organisations; for example, with internal funding, **JClark** led on the digitisation of Exeter Cathedral's [Exeter Book](#) of Old English (listed in 2016 on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register), and the medieval cartulary from [Powderham Castle](#) for on-site physical display and on-line open access. Since 2014 the UoA has appointed one DH-specialist lecturer (**Ward**); at the same time other colleagues have proactively drawn on DH-approaches for their own research including medievalists (**Birkett, JClark**) and modernists (**Thackeray, Toye**). DH approaches extend to postgraduates and students: as well as the *Hypatia* project (see section 1.4), **Tregidga's** HLF-funded project, *Cornwall's Maritime Churches*, works with sixth form and university students to compile a digital archive of visual, film and oral histories.

3.5 The UoA benefits from wider institutional investment in an **operational infrastructure** to support the needs of all researchers. In normal (pre-Covid) times, all permanent staff have their own office, PCs, unrestricted access to printers, copiers and scanners, and a research allowance of £1000 per annum. Each research centre is funded for an external programme of visiting researchers. Colleagues are also able to bid for additional funds from the HoDs, College of Humanities and University to pump prime research, fund reproduction rights and international collaboration; for examples see section 1.2. Collaborative research between Penryn Humanities' constituent elements is funded internally by a ring-fenced **Penryn Humanities Research Fund** (currently £7,000 annually).

Grant applications from colleagues benefit from the departmental support system outlined in section 2.2. Administrative support for research and impact is organised at University level (ILES 4.6-9); the Humanities College also employs an Impact Officer who helps UoA colleagues develop and deliver impact.

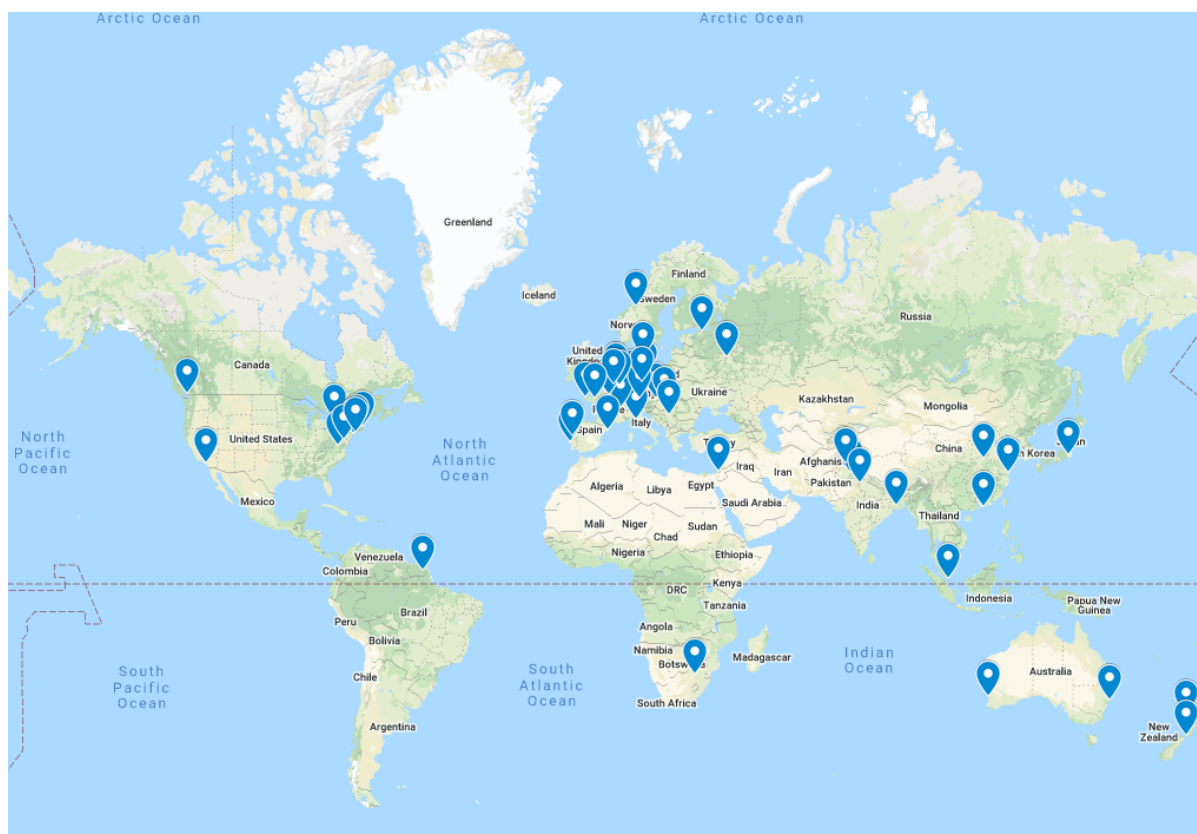
3.6 The UoA has benefited from **investment in cross-disciplinary research centres**. The £4M [WCCEH](#), housed in a specially adapted suite, crosses humanities, medicine, and social sciences, and is made up of over 16 academics, 10 postdoctoral fellows and 10 PhD students, supported by 5 operations staff. Historians are at its heart and include its founding director **Jackson** and **Vargha**, PDF (**Moore**), PDRA (**Cooper**) and a PhD student (**Yamada**); members of the [CMH](#) are all involved with the cross-disciplinary research of WCCEH. In 2019/20 the University launched the cross-disciplinary Institute for Cultural Enquiry (IICE); still in its early stages with only one round of awards so far, it will be a hub for developing and supporting cross-disciplinary research, especially across HASS subjects, in future years. The success of historians at Exeter in collaborating to address UN Sustainable Development Goals in collaboration with social scientists is one example of our success in working across disciplinary boundaries in innovative collaborations that are informing policymaking: for example, **Hynd's** IICE-funded research on 'Race, gender and childhood in post-humanitarian campaigning at local and global levels' with colleagues in Politics and **Bridger's** UKRI Future Leaders Award (see section 4.3.4 below).

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

4.1. Interdisciplinary and international collaboration is integral to our research activity. Conscious of our responsibility to promote and support History, we pride ourselves on **supporting colleagues at every career stage to make significant contributions to the discipline beyond the University** and foster collaborations and engagement with non-academic sectors. More than 28 colleagues (11 female – 3 professors, 5 senior lecturer/AP, 3 lecturers; 17 male - 7 professors, 6 senior lecturer/APs, 4 lecturers), beyond the 5 associated with the ICSs, have engaged with diverse communities and publics through their research. Further, colleagues at all career levels are embedded in national and international academic infrastructures, and perform academic roles for learned societies, journals, conferences, grant-giving and assessment bodies, as well as in research policy development, book publishing and PhD examination.

4.2 Wide-ranging, interdisciplinary collaboration is central to our research activity. All members of the UoA belong to one or more of the interdisciplinary research centres (see section 1.2); section 2.4.1-2 details collaboration around PGR training. The majority of colleagues **actively collaborate with international researchers**: more than 34 colleagues currently have active

research projects (funded and non-funded) with academics in over 26 countries across 5 continents, as shown [here](#):



They range from colleagues at the beginning of their career working with established international researchers on joint publications, grant applications, and conference presentations, including collaborations by **Spaskovska** with researchers from universities in Austria, Switzerland, Australia and Oxford to mid-career staff e.g. **Birkett** works with IT researchers at Wesleyan University, USA; **Vargha** has collaborators in the Netherlands, France, Hong Kong, Norway and the USA. All those at professorial level are involved in international collaboration e.g. **Mark** collaborated with colleagues at Oxford, Columbia, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Leipzig and Belgrade, and the French consortium LABEX on two different projects and **Whittle** collaborates with researchers at Fudan University, Shanghai, and Belgian and Swedish universities on joint publications and workshops.

All staff have ongoing research collaborations with other institutions in the UK. These are too numerous to detail but include **Lawrence's** participation in the ground-breaking UKRI interdisciplinary project with the Alan Turing Institute, [Living with Machines](#), using digital methods to explore the impact of the first Industrial Revolution.

4.3 Engagement, knowledge exchange and impact are embedded across our research. In addition to the activities outlined in the ICSs, **all colleagues are involved in knowledge exchange and many undertake impactful research**. Only some representative examples are listed below.

4.3.1 Contribution to Public Policy: In addition to the ways in which our research has informed health policy documented in *ICS Embedding*, via the WCCEH, other colleagues have collaborated with the Civil Service, think tanks, health professionals and trade unions to inform the development of current policy in the areas of crime, housing and social policy, trade and foreign policy, and labour rights. This work has often been facilitated by UKRI funding. Under the auspices of their AHRC international research network *Imagining Markets* (2014-16), **Thackeray, Thompson and Toye** delivered a public policy event co-organised with HM Treasury, the Department for Business,

Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and [History & Policy](#), deemed by the Director General, Business and Science 'timely and pertinent to ongoing discussions being held within the department and has helped inform my policy discussion with ministers'. The audience of 15 analysts at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government found **Lawrence's** insights arising from his monograph 'really interesting and helpful as we think about developing Communities policy further'. **Curless** held two ESRC-funded conferences jointly with the TUC at Congress House, and a workshop on migrant labour in Singapore jointly with a local civil society organisation, Function 8. **Allerfeldt** collaborated with the Gangmasters Licensing Authority and Devon and Cornwall Constabulary on research into modern slavery legislation for his AHRC project, *Negating Humanity*, resulting in a policy brief for the [Partnership for Conflict, Crime and Security Research](#). More locally, **JClark** and **French** worked with Teignbridge District Council to improve the evidence-base of Conservation Area Designations, and therefore planning policy, through workshops with local community members (2018-19). The UoA also has collaboration agreements with several major international NGOs including that between the WCCEH and the World Health Organisation, and **Thompson's** work with the International Committee of the Red Cross and UN Secretariat.

4.3.2 Influencing the Work of Museums and Other Heritage Organisations. The UoA's connections with local and national heritage organisations have developed substantially since 2014. Consolidating long-standing links with local heritage groups, we have signed memoranda of agreements with the South-west Federation of Museums, the Cornwall Museums Partnership, Exeter's Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Exeter Cathedral. The UoA also works with local government through a collaborative agreement with Cornwall Council. On the national scale, we have signed collaboration agreements with the Department of Education, Heritage Advisory Group, Historic England, the Imperial War Museum, the National Trust and Survival International, and have informal working relationships with the Historical Association, the Brooks Advisory Trust, and the Imperial War Graves Commission.

Reflecting and strengthening these links, and the global spread of our research expertise, as demonstrated by **Onciul** (ICS *Influencing*), colleagues from all career stages have worked with, and advised local, national and international museums and organisations.

In 2019 **French** set up the Exeter Heritage Partnership, bringing together more than 8 institutions; it leads the 4-year programme associated with Exeter's UNESCO City of Literature status (2019-2022). **Davey** acted as consultant for Plymouth City Museum's new *100 Journeys* permanent display and **McCallum** for the British Museum's 'Currency of Communism' exhibition (2017-18). Exeter Cathedral's archivist reports that doing a "Forgeries-style" exhibition has become internal short-hand when planning future exhibitions' after **Roach's** successful [medieval exhibition](#) in May 2019. **JClark** and **French** curated new permanent exhibits for Powderham Castle about its historical development. In addition to **Fisher's** work (ICS *Creative Methods*), **Jackson** sits on the Science Museum's Medicine Gallery Advisory Panel and their *Collecting COVID* Advisory Panel. **Withey**, supported by a Wellcome Trust Public Engagement Award, researched and curated the exhibition 'The Age of the Beard' at the Florence Nightingale Museum, London (2016-2017). Attended by 23,473 (45% male, 55% female), this exhibition was noted for increasing the proportion of male visitors to the museum. **Mark's** AHRC project, 'Socialism Goes Global' resulted in a major exhibition, 'Tito in Africa' at the Museum of Yugoslavia in Belgrade (2017), attended by 56,000 people, before touring to Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum (2018) and the Wende Museum, Los Angeles (2019). **Mark's** AHRC-Labex funded *Criminalization of Dictatorial Past* (2016-19) project worked with the International Committee of Memorial Museums in Remembrance of the Victims of Public Crimes assisting memorial museums in Kazakhstan and Chile not normally included in global discussions to go beyond national victim stories.

4.3.3 Contribution to educational practice beyond university. Beyond Pennell's ICS *First World War*, several other colleagues' research informed the secondary school history curriculum and pedagogy in England, Wales and France, by delivering materials and practitioner training. With the Historical Association, **Hamilton** organised a CPD-workshop (2018), attended by 35 secondary school teachers, on late Anglo-Saxon England to support the demand for greater

knowledge about medieval history required by reforms to GCSE history in England and Wales. **Hanley** served on the Runnymede Trust-AHRC 'Our Migration Story' panel (2016) and contributed a new learning resource to support OCR's GCSE history module 'Migration to Britain'. Internationally, **Mark** co-authored an interactive digital school textbook in conjunction with the French Ministry of Education on new approaches to criminalising the past. **Chatterjee** created a course on [The Decline and Fall of the Mughal Empire, 1658-1739](#) for Massolit, to broaden the secondary school curriculum. Similarly focusing on an online platform, and designed to support non-formal, lifelong learning, CIGH colleagues authored and delivered a successful MOOC: [Empire: The Controversies of British Imperialism](#). Launched in 2016 through the Future Learn platform, it has run 22 times, attracting 78,395 enrolments, including 40,057 active learners, drawn from 88 countries.

4.3.4 Community Engagement. Colleagues have demonstrated significant engagement with community groups both locally, in the South West of England, and overseas. **French's** AHRC First World War Public Engagement Research Fund project, '*Farming, Fishing and Food Supply in Devon During the First World War*' (2015-2016), organised six workshops with local researchers leading to publications in the *Journal of the Devon History Society*; one contribution won the 2018 national 'Local Historian' prize for the best short research article. **Tregidga's** HLF *Cornwall's Maritime Churches* project supported local university and sixth-form students to create a digital archive of audio-visual material exploring church buildings and their communities. **Antic** co-organised a workshop on *Mental Health across Cultural Borders* at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neurology (November 2018) (46 attendees) to support health practitioners. Overseas, in addition to **Onciul's** research (*ICS Influencing*), **Bridger** works with a South African NGO, the Khulamani Support Group, for her UKRI-Future Leaders Fellowship research into women's untold histories of violence in modern South Africa.

4.3.5 Public engagement through contributing to artistic and cultural products, and media content. While instances of our researchers' engagement with media are too numerous to list, some representative examples include significant contribution to content. **Whittle** contributed to a programme on 'The Motherhood Myth' for BBC Radio 4 (2019; 10.7M listener reach), and served as a filmed expert contributor on early modern economic and social history for the BBC series 'The History of the English Village', broadcast 2018 (BBC South West) and 2019 (BBC 4). **Toye** co-presented a C4 2018 documentary 'Churchill's Secret Affair' (11.4M viewer reach). In 2017 **Singh** contributed to written guides for the British Film Institute's 'India on Film' and 'South Asian Britain on Film' Digital Archive Projects, which made some 200 films publicly accessible online. He also contributed to 'Britain's Muslim Soldiers' (BBC 1, 2016), and 'Soldiers of the Empire' series (BBC Radio 4, 2014).

4.4 Since 2014 9 colleagues, from all career stages, received **national and international prizes for their research**. They include 7 early colleagues appointed since 2014 including **Antic** (Wiener Library Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History, 2015); **Davey** (Jan Glete prize for Maritime History, 2015); **Hanley** (RHS Alexander Prize for first published article, 2016; RHS Whitfield Prize for a first monograph on British History, 2019); **Vargha** (American Association for the History of Medicine, 2016). Colleagues in post before 2014 awarded prizes for their research include **Roach** (Longman-History Today Prize, 2017 and Labarge Prize, Canadian Society of Medievalists, 2017); **Jackson** (Royal Society, Bernal-Wilkins-Medawar Medal for history of medicine and science, 2018). **Whittle** was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Science in 2015.

At the same time, twenty colleagues (12 female, 8 male) at all career stages have received national and international recognition of the excellence of their research through the **award of research fellowships and visiting professorships**. Two major awards stand out: **Bridger** to a UKRI FFL (2020) on South African gendered violence in the third year of her appointment to a permanent lectureship; **Thomas** to an Independent Social Research Foundation Senior Fellowship on imperialist humanitarianism (2016). Internationally, **Mark** to a Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Fellowship, on global decolonisation and post-1945 European history, and **Toulalan** (2017) to a US Folger Library Fellowship on early modern medicine.

4.5 UoA researchers at all career stages play a significant role in **supporting and leading academic research** in their respective fields at local, national and international levels contributing to the discipline's sustainability.

All colleagues belong to **learned societies** (local, national and international). 38 are Fellows of the *RHS*; **Hamilton** was its Treasurer (2014-19); **Toye** is a Literary Director. **Chatterjee** was on the steering committee of History UK (2019-20). **Onciul** founded and chairs the UK Chapter of the *Association of Critical Heritage Studies*. Many colleagues serve in **key positions in specialist learned societies**, including 15 who have served on the councils or executive committees of 14 societies including *African Studies Association for the UK* (**Hynd**, 2015-20); *British Agricultural History Society* (**French**, 2015-20; **Whittle**, Chair, 2012-15); *British Association of South Asian Studies* (**Williams**, 2016-19); *British Society for Eighteenth-century Studies* (**Hanley**, 2017--); *British Society for the History of Science* (**Noakes**, 2012-16); *Economic History Society* (**Whittle**, 2016-19); *Henry Bradshaw Society* (**Hamilton**, 2015--); *Society for the Social History of Medicine* (**Vargha**) and **Fusaro**: *International Maritime Historical Association* (2016-20), *Société Internationale des Historiens de la Méditerranée* (2013-2017; Vice-President 2017-2021).

Eighteen colleagues, at all career stages, have undertaken **significant editorial roles** for some **20 different journals**, covering a range of histories. They include **Singh**, associate editor, *South Asian Studies* from 2017; **Rendle**, reviews editor (2008-2015) and co-editor of *Revolutionary Russia* from 2015; **Vargha**, co-editor of the *Social History of Medicine* from 2017; **Roach**, reviews co-editor, *The Medieval Review* from 2017; **Hamilton**, co-ordinating editor, *Early Medieval Europe* (2012-2015), **Lawrence**, chair, editorial board, *Twentieth-century British History* (2012-2017). In addition, a further eleven colleagues are on the editorial boards of twelve journals.

Seven colleagues serve as **editors for book series** ranging across periods and specialties: Palgrave's *Historical Studies in Witchcraft and Magic* (**Barry**); University of Hertfordshire Press *Studies in Regional and Local History* (**Whittle**); BASEES/Routledge Series on Russia and East European Studies (**Rendle**); Amsterdam UP *Premodern Health, Disease and Disability* (**Rider**); Cambridge UP *Studies in Social and Cultural History of Modern Warfare and Elements of Modern Wars* (both **Thomas**); University of Pittsburgh Press *Science and Culture in the Nineteenth Century* (**Jackson**).

All mid-career colleagues and professors, and the majority of early career colleagues review articles for a range of journals too numerous to list here. Colleagues also reviewed book proposals and manuscripts for presses including Cambridge UP, Harvard UP, Manchester UP, Oxford UP, Princeton UP, Routledge and Yale UP.

In addition to organising numerous panels at international conferences, and regular events and seminar programmes for learned societies and particular research centres, colleagues organised or co-organised more than 60 independent **international workshops and conferences** in the REF period. They included regular meetings of international scholars including the *Association for Critical Heritage Studies Hangzhou* (2018) and *London* (2020) conferences (**Onciul**); the *British Association of South Asian Studies* (**Chatterjee** and **Singh**, 2018); and the *British Society for Eighteenth-century Studies Annual Conference* (**Hanley**, 2018, 2019, 2020). Most of these events arose from specific funded research projects; 5 from medieval projects, 7 from early modern ones, 8 from modern medical history projects, and over 30 from modern history including 20 associated with **Mark's** three funded projects, *1989 after 1989*, *Socialism Goes Global*, and *Criminalisation of Dictatorial Past*, and 4 for **Pennell's** *Teaching and Learning War* (2017-2019). Together with **Rupprecht** and **Spaskovska**, **Toye** and **Mark** also organised a major British Academy International Conference: 'Global Neoliberalisms: Lost and Found in Translation'. Several were organised by colleagues within the first five years of their appointment including **Withey** 2015; **Antic** (4 events, 2015-2018), **Vargha** (3 events, 2014-18), **Williams** (3 workshops, 2017).

Colleagues delivered more than 40 **keynote lectures** in 16 countries. The majority are by senior colleagues but include early-career **Espelt Bombín's** address to the Congreso de Antropología e Historia de Panamá, Panama City (2016).

12 mid-career and senior colleagues serve on 10 **national and international research awarding bodies** in recognition of their expertise and their willingness to contribute to the wider health of the profession. Nationally, **Jackson** served on the 2014 REF History sub-panel and is its chair for REF2021; he was also senior academic adviser (Medical Humanities) to the Wellcome Trust (2013-16); **Overy** is a Fellow of the British Academy. 9 colleagues (6 female, 3 male) are members of the AHRC's Peer Review College (PRC) and 2 colleagues (1 female, 1 male) on the ESCR's PRC. Internationally, **Espelt Bombín** served on the ERC Starting Grants panel (2014-20). **Mark** was a member of the Danish DFF Humanities Research Board (2016-18), and the Dutch NIAS Review Panel (Memory), **Whittle** of the Belgian FWO History and Archaeology Grant Awarding Panel (2019-21). **Toye** is an external assessor for Princeton University's Institute for Advanced Study Fellowships. Colleagues have also reviewed for funders including the Irish Research Council, Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research, and Danish DFF.

Examining PhDs: over 20 colleagues examined more than 64 PhDs at more than 40 different academic institutions, including 26 within the UK. Internationally, colleagues served as external examiners at universities including: the Universities of Barcelona, Columbia, Copenhagen, Paris Diderot, Trinity College, Dublin, University College, Cork, University College, Dublin, ANU, Canberra, the University of Monash, and the University of Western Australia. On our contribution to **cross-institutional PGR training** see 2.4.1 above.

4.6 Since REF2014, as evidenced above, we have collectively demonstrated our increasing momentum and strength in research, resulting in a substantial growth in our research performance. We have developed our international reputation in global and colonial history, medical and maritime history, public history and heritage; we have deepened and diversified impactful historical research, working in close collaboration with other academic disciplines, and with wider audiences including heritage and cultural industries and policy makers. Our research is demonstrably of the highest standards of scholarly excellence, which we believe to be of intrinsic value, an ethos which runs through all of our research. But we are also helping to change approaches to key societal issues: the decolonisation of history, understanding deep-time perspectives on climate change, health inequalities, and recovering the untold stories of gender-based violence. We are at the forefront of pioneering new methodologies that will reinvigorate the study of history in future generations, embracing AI and new digital technologies. Our increasingly diverse research community, including PGRs, postdoctoral researchers, and a high proportion of early to mid-career colleagues, are in a commanding position to build on these achievements and take us into the 2020s. The training, professional development and national/international connections we have established will prepare them for future research that is even more collaborative, interdisciplinary, multi-institutional and impactful.