Annual Report and Review 2014

Being Human: the UK’s first national humanities festival

Bilderfahrzeuge: enhancing our understanding of cultural history

Jackie Marfleet: bringing world-class resources to researchers

The Human Mind Project: innovating interdisciplinary collaboration
Title:

Front cover: Moving image still from the Salt Road-curated Hacking the Archives, an Arts Council England Lottery-funded moving image artist commission for the 2014 Being Human festival led by the School of Advanced Study at Senate House. The material in this moving image work is taken from the Mass Observation 1938 Bolton Happiness Survey, with thanks to the Trustees of the Mass Observation Archive, University of Sussex. In April 1938, Mass Observation asked readers of the Bolton Evening News to complete a survey titled “What is Happiness?” Told that this was a competition with a £2 2s prize, 226 readers responded, with most choosing “personal security” as the thing that made them the most happy. Interestingly, the survey was repeated in 2014 and respondents made the same choice. Artist Cathy Wade, Bullfinch in an apple tree (Mass Observation, Bolton, 1938), moving image, 2014. See pages 15–17 for further information about the Being Human festival.

Above: A walking tour group of Senate House during the Being Human festival 2014 are shown a map of the University of London, painted by Macdonald Gill in 1939. The tour was led by Dr Henry Irving, project officer for the Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded ‘Make do and mend’ project on the publication and communication history of the Ministry of Information (1939–45), based in Senate House. See page 8 for further information about the project.
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The School of Advanced Study: making a difference

The School of Advanced Study (SAS) has a unique mission in UK higher education:

- to champion the cause of humanities research, ensuring that the social, cultural and economic benefits of humanities research are publicly recognised;
- to provide world-class support to individuals, networks and organisations conducting humanities research, nationally and internationally;
- to identify and lead debates that stimulate new agendas and innovative thinking;
- to show creativity in developing research services, resources and research training.

The School places particular importance on promoting interdisciplinary dialogue both across the humanities and with scholars working in the sciences and social sciences. Our mission stems from the special role and funding for research promotion and facilitation across the UK and internationally, that the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) has given to the School. It is supported by the University of London and underpinned and enhanced by the internationally recognised research produced by our academic staff, and by outstanding taught postgraduate programmes leading to University of London degrees.

This annual review of the activities of SAS in 2013–14 highlights some of the innovative and exciting ways in which the School and its ten constituent institutes are fulfilling this mission.
Championing the humanities through public engagement

The School recognises that public funding for humanities research will only be secure if there is a broad appreciation within society of the value of this work. The challenge to humanities scholars is to find imaginative ways of reaching out beyond the academy. SAS is therefore particularly delighted by the enthusiastic reception which greeted its Being Human festival (pages 15–17), a major initiative undertaken in collaboration with the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the British Academy to stage the UK's first national humanities festival. A grant competition was launched in January to fund events across Britain. Over 100 applications were received, and funding was awarded to 36 partners from Cornwall to the Orkney Islands. The Being Human festival is the foremost example of the School’s commitment both to bringing humanities research to as broad a public as possible, and to operating on a genuinely national scale.

Engagement with the public, underpinned by world-class research, is integral to the School’s many other research promotion events and activities. The Institute of Philosophy’s Centre for the Study of the Senses regularly invites its wide range of international partners to design events that bring the latest findings to the national subject communities and the wider public. Its launch event for the national charity Fifth Sense (page 20) brought together leading researchers, clinicians, campaigners and loss of smell sufferers to raise informed awareness of the effect that the loss of sense of smell can have on people’s lives.

Working with cultural partners to encourage and promote cutting-edge research

As the national centre for humanities research promotion and facilitation, the School is uniquely well-placed to support and promote research in collaboration with cultural partners. Its location in the Bloomsbury Knowledge Quarter of London provides a culturally rich environment and myriad opportunities for collaboration that benefit researchers across the UK and globally. The contribution of the Institute of Classical Studies to the Naukratis Project (pages 18–19) is an example of this critical work. This cutting-edge interdisciplinary project involving the British Museum and some 70 institutions worldwide is, through the Institute’s support, changing our understanding of how ancient cultures interacted and how modern interpretations are affected by changing scholarly perspectives.

Promoting innovation through national and international dialogue and collaboration

At the heart of our rich and varied programme of events is the idea that innovative, world-class research and the promotion of new research agendas can only be achieved through academic dialogue and debate. Furthermore, we recognise that humanities researchers increasingly see themselves as part of a global scholarly community. As such, we see a key part of our mission as providing a forum in which scholars from across the world can present their work, discuss their ideas and support early career researchers. The Institute of Latin American Studies has made an important contribution to developing and strengthening the sharing of research and creation of national networks outside of London through its regional seminar series scheme (pages 22–23). The Refugee
Law Initiative tackled the topical issue of boat migration in its international conference on Migrants at sea (page 43), encouraging the presentation of new, as yet unheard perspectives from early career researchers.

Increasingly, the events and research projects sponsored by SAS have a strong international dimension serving to forge links not merely between individual scholars, but also between academic institutions in the UK and overseas. In the case of Music, mind and culture (page 42) this has led to the creation of a pioneering international network between philosophers, neuroscientists and musicologists. The Warburg Institute has played an important role in forging these kinds of links as the lead institution in two major collaborative international research projects: Encounters with the Orient in early modern European scholarship (page 25) and Bilderfahrzeuge: Aby Warburg’s legacy and the future of iconography (pages 34–35).

SAS recognises that the study of modern languages is an element of UK humanities research which is both strategic and currently under threat. In this context, bringing UK scholars into contact with colleagues working in this field in other countries has particular value. An example of this was the symposium German in the world (page 46), organised by the Institute of Modern Languages Research (IMLR), which assessed the health of German studies across the globe. Another major event, organised by the IMLR’s Centre for Cultural Memory Studies, Memories of the future (pages 40–41) brought together an interdisciplinary group of students, artists, scholars, architects and practitioners to explore the future through the humanities and social sciences.

**Promoting genuinely interdisciplinary research**

SAS appreciates that a vibrant research culture is one that encourages interaction between discipline areas, and we are committed to facilitating such interactions. The human mind, for example, has long fascinated novelists, poets, philosophers and scientists. One of the School’s most innovative and ambitious initiatives in recent years has been the launch of its Human Mind Project (pages 38–39) in December 2013, to encourage a creative interaction between the arts, humanities and sciences. The project is led by Professor Sir Colin Blakemore, the University of London’s first Professor of Neuroscience and Philosophy. The Institute of Philosophy’s Centre for the Study of the Senses (page 42) has been particularly active in demonstrating the value of an interdisciplinary approach to the study of perception.

**Providing unparalleled world-class humanities resources to researchers around the globe**

SAS, in collaboration with the Senate House Library (SHL), is responsible for managing and developing some of the world’s most important library collections in the humanities. The seven collections that comprise the SAS Libraries together with SHL – one of the UK’s largest academic libraries focused on the arts, humanities and social sciences – provide access to researchers from around the globe to more than three million books and over 1,200 archival collections. The appointment of Jackie Marfleet to the new role of Senate House Librarian (pages 26–29) comes at a time of increased collaboration between SAS and SHL. In April 2014, the new role of Deputy Chief Executive of the School and Director of Operations for Senate House Library was created. The post will provide operational leadership and accountability for the management of administrative services across both SAS and the Library to maximise synergies, efficiencies and quality of service.
**Supporting humanities scholars at all points of their career**

SAS understands that humanities researchers need different kinds of support corresponding to the particular stage they have reached in their careers. It plays a leading role in providing training for doctoral students across the UK. Like many other aspects of the School’s activities, this doctoral research training increasingly has an international dimension (see for example the *cultural student exchange* (pages 30–31) organised by the Institute of Historical Research in collaboration with Northwestern University, Chicago). It also provides opportunities for post-doctoral researchers to take their steps towards an academic career in a stimulating and nurturing environment. An example of this is the creation by the Institute of Latin American Studies of four *early career stipendiary fellowships* in 2013–14 (pages 44–45). In addition to this, the School provides prestigious stipendiary fellowships for more senior scholars, a notable example being the *ST Lee Visiting Professorial Fellowship* (page 13), occupied in 2013–14 by two renowned experts, the composer Professor Brian Ferneyhough and constitutional law expert and President of Grenada’s Senate, Dr Lawrence Joseph.

**Providing innovative research training**

Part of this commitment to supporting humanities scholars involves providing them with the training that will help them cope with a rapidly changing research environment. One of the School’s major initiatives in 2013–14 was the AHRC-funded *Quantitative research methods course* (page 32) led by the Institute of Commonwealth Studies. This addressed a widely recognised skills-gap among UK arts graduates, one that threatens to limit the scope of research based on quantitative data. The increasing use made by humanities scholars of digital material is addressed by another AHRC-funded initiative, *Medieval and modern manuscripts in the digital age* (pages 36–37) led by the Institute of English Studies and the Warburg Institute in collaboration with King’s College London and the University of Cambridge. Finally, the School has responded to the increasing use of social media to promote and disseminate humanities research by introducing its highly innovative *Social Scholar seminar series* (page 24).

**Ensuring policy impact beyond the academy**

With its unique position in Central London, its strong links with policy-makers, non-governmental organisations and the media, SAS provides an ideal platform from which to achieve demonstrable impact beyond the academy. Through the work of the School’s Human Rights Consortium, which hosted the 2013 *Association of Human Rights Institutes Conference* (page 33), human rights specialists from across the world were able to present their work directly to leading British parliamentarians. Our *interview with Dr David Cantor* (page 21) demonstrates how the work of the School’s Refugee Law Initiative is actually helping to shape policy in this vital area of humanitarian activity.

The cases we present in the pages below are just a few representative examples from 2013–14 of the great range of activities sponsored by the School of Advanced Study. We believe they demonstrate how SAS is able to make a difference to humanities research and enable it to deliver real public benefit from its public funding.

Professor Roger Kain CBE FBA  
Dean and Chief Executive  
University of London, School of Advanced Study
The School of Advanced Study Institutes

Advanced Legal Studies
The Institute of Advanced Legal Studies supports and leads legal research in its broadest sense, both nationally and internationally. Founded in 1947, it houses specialist research centres and innovative partnerships and is home to an active community of researchers, fellows and postgraduate students. It promotes new research agendas in specialist and interdisciplinary areas of law with direct effect on policy and practice. It provides research training and online services, a meeting place for organisations and legal scholars from around the world, one of the world’s great legal research libraries and a busy programme of seminars and public events.

Classical Studies
The Institute of Classical Studies is a national and international research centre for the study of the languages, literature, history, art, archaeology and philosophy of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds. Founded in 1953, it provides an internationally renowned research library available to scholars from universities throughout the world, in association with the Hellenic and Roman Societies. It also serves as the meeting place of the main Classics organisations in the UK.

Commonwealth Studies
The only postgraduate academic institution in the UK devoted to the study of the Commonwealth, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies was founded in 1949. Its purpose is to promote interdisciplinary and interregional research on the Commonwealth and its member nations in the fields of history, politics and other social sciences. Its areas of specialism include Commonwealth history, governance, human rights, north-south relations and conflict and security. It is also home to the longest-running interdisciplinary and practice-oriented human rights MA programme in the UK.

English Studies
Founded in 1999, the Institute of English Studies facilitates advanced study and research in English studies for the benefit of the national and international academic community. Its Centre for Manuscript and Print Studies covers such fields of study as palaeography, history of printing, manuscript and print relations, history of publishing and the book trade, textual scholarship, and the electronic book.

Historical Research
Founded in 1921, the Institute of Historical Research is at the centre of the study of academic history. It provides a stimulating research environment supported by its two research centres: the Centre for Metropolitan History and Victoria County History. It is also home to an outstanding open access library, hosts events and seminars and has a dedicated programme of research training.

Latin American Studies
The Institute of Latin American Studies, founded in 1965, is a national coordinating centre dedicated to serving the UK’s Latin American and Caribbean studies community. Internationally recognised as a centre of excellence for research facilitation, it serves the wider community through organising academic events, providing online research resources, publishing scholarly writings and hosting visiting fellows. It possesses a world-class library dedicated to the study of Latin America and is the administrative home of the highly respected Journal of Latin American Studies.
Modern Languages Research
The Institute of Modern Languages Research was established in 2004 by the merger of the Institutes of Germanic Studies and Romance Studies, founded in 1950 and 1989 respectively. It is committed to supporting, initiating and promoting dialogue and research for the modern languages community across a range of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields in the humanities.

Musical Research
Established in 2006, the Institute of Musical Research is a national resource committed to fostering musical research in all its diversity. It offers a unique meeting point for researchers and postgraduate students across the UK and acts as a hub for collaborative work on a national and international scale.

Philosophy
The Institute of Philosophy, founded in 2005, promotes and supports high quality research in philosophy, making it available to the widest possible audience both inside and outside the UK’s academic community. It is home to three active research centres: the Centre for the Study of the Senses, the Centre for Logic and Language, and the Centre for Computing in Philosophy.

The Warburg Institute
Incorporated in the University in 1944, the Warburg Institute exists principally to further the study of the classical tradition – those elements of European thought, literature, art and institutions which derive from the ancient world. The classical tradition is conceived as the theme which unifies the history of Western civilisation. The bias is not towards ‘classical’ values in art and literature: students and scholars will find represented all the strands that link medieval and modern civilisation with its origins in the ancient cultures of the Near East and the Mediterranean.
Institute of Philosophy awarded AHRC grant of £1.9 million for ground-breaking research on the senses

The Institute of Philosophy was awarded a major research grant of £1.95 million from the Arts and Humanities Research Council in September 2013 to support a three-year project based at its Centre for the Study of the Senses. Led by Professor Sir Colin Blakemore, the project will bring together philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists to work together in new ways. It aims to further our understanding of how all our senses work together to shape our conscious experiences of the outside world and of our own bodies. The project is a collaboration with the universities of Glasgow, Oxford and Warwick, and will include collaborators from a variety of institutions such as the Institute for Cognitive Neuroscience, the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging and the Tate Galleries. Find out more about the Centre for the Study of the Senses on page 20.

Commonwealth oral history website launched

The Institute of Commonwealth Studies undertook the trial launch of a brand new world-class resource for students, researchers, historians and policy-makers in November 2013. Commonwealth Oral Histories features a series of extended interviews with leading politicians, diplomats and journalists involved in the history of the Commonwealth from 1965. These discussions are part of a larger Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded project, ‘An oral history of the modern Commonwealth’. Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth’s third secretary-general, and two former British foreign secretaries – Sir Malcolm Rifkind and Lord Douglas Hurd – are included in the first 11 interviews. By 2015, more than 60 will be available on the dedicated website.

AHRC grant awarded for research on the publication and communication history of the Ministry of Information, 1939–45

In September 2013, the Institute of English Studies was awarded a research grant of £782,410 from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. ‘Make do and mend’, a ground-breaking four-year research project in collaboration with King’s College London and The National Archives, will address a glaring gap in the history of 20th-century Britain. Despite its immortalisation as ‘The Ministry of Truth’ by George Orwell in his novel 1984 and its important role as the public information authority and publicity agent of the British government during the Second World War, relatively little scholarly research has been done on the Ministry of Information.
The Human Mind Project launched

In December 2013, SAS unveiled an ambitious project to understand the human mind. The Human Mind Project represents a coordinated, international effort to define the major intellectual challenges in understanding the nature and significance of the human mind. Coinciding with major research programmes in the US and Europe, the project’s central concern is the importance of collaboration across conventional disciplinary boundaries. It will highlight the contribution of the arts and humanities to the understanding of human nature, and the importance of a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach to the study of the mind, integrating science and the humanities. The project was launched with an intensive workshop followed by a public debate on ‘What’s so special about the human mind?’, chaired by project leader neuroscientist Professor Sir Colin Blakemore. Find out more about the project on pages 38–39.

UK’s first national humanities research festival launched

Being Human, the UK’s first national festival dedicated to demonstrating the value, vitality and relevance of humanities research, was launched in January 2014. Following a national funding competition, 36 universities were selected from over 100 applicants to receive small grants to participate in the festival. Led by SAS, in partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy, the nine-day festival has attracted participation from more than 150 universities and cultural organisations in locations across the UK – from an archaeological dig in Orkney to a museum in Truro, a theatre in Belfast to Dylan Thomas’s childhood home in Swansea, a gallery in Norwich to the Supreme Court in London. Find out more about the festival on pages 15–17.
Funding boost for research in 'big data' transformation

Four innovative research projects supported by member institutes of SAS, which will transform how we work with large datasets, have received a significant boost thanks to big data funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

‘Digging into linked parliamentary data’, a collaborative research project involving the Institute of Historical Research (IHR), won a share of more than £3m-worth of grant funding from the Digging into Data international competition in January 2014. The two-year project – with partners including the universities of Amsterdam and Toronto, King’s College London and the History of Parliament Trust – will focus on parliamentary proceedings in the UK, Canada and the Netherlands from 1800 to the present to allow analysis of massive databases across different jurisdictions, political cultures, periods and contexts.

Three further awards were made through the Council's Digital Transformations scheme in February 2014. ‘Big UK domain data for the arts and humanities (BUDDAH)’ – led by the IHR in partnership with the British Library and the Oxford Internet Institute – will draw on a set of archived UK websites covering the period 1996–2013 to develop a theoretical and methodological framework in which to study the data. ‘Traces through time: prosopography in practice across big data’, led by The National Archives in partnership with the IHR, will produce a methodology and supporting toolkit that identify individuals within and across historical datasets, allowing people to be traced through their records and enabling their stories to emerge from the data. ‘Big data for law’ – a collaboration between the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, The National Archives and a range of partners from the commercial and public sectors – will develop a big data toolkit to help researchers analyse and map the vast amount of new or modified legislation added to the statute book every month.

AHRC training grant awarded for WISE – ‘What is scholarly editing?’

In February 2014, an Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Skills Development training grant was awarded for WISE, led by the Institute of English Studies in collaboration with the Institute of Historical Research and the universities of Cardiff and Durham. The 18-month programme will offer training to postgraduate research students and early career researchers in tools, platforms, theories and methodologies commonly used in scholarly editing, digital and in print. A selection of training materials will also be made available in a free, online training module offering an ‘Introduction to scholarly editing’.

Image: Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), public domain via Wikimedia Commons.
‘Festival in a box’ reaches out to vulnerable Bloomsbury residents

An innovative research project that extended the October 2013 Bloomsbury Festival into the homes of older people with dementia was completed in May 2014. Funded by a research grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council, ‘Bloomsbury Festival in a box’ took boxes of stimulus materials associated with the festival out to people unable to leave their homes. Led by SAS – in collaboration with the Bloomsbury Festival, Age UK Camden’s Dementia Befriending Service and the Faculty of Brain Sciences at UCL – the project’s investigative findings were made available digitally, in an academic publication, and through a one-day knowledge-share event hosted by SAS for practitioners in gerontology, the arts and health.

Podcast views and downloads exceed half a million

Podcasts and video resources on the SAS-managed University of London iTunes U platform and the School’s YouTube channel continue to attract larger audiences than ever before. The School’s efforts to raise awareness of its multimedia content bore fruit this year with a significant rise in the regular viewing figures; over half of podcast views and downloads (281,174) in the past three years took place in 2013–14. In May 2014, SAS podcast content exceeded half a million views and downloads. The biggest audience for the lectures, recitals, seminars and conferences produced by or in association with SAS was from the USA, closely followed by the UK, China, Canada and Australia. Find out more about the School’s digital and library resources on pages 26–29.

‘Undesirable and unreturnable’ – the migrants states can’t handle

In July 2014, funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council for an ambitious new international research project based at the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) was announced. The two-year project will attempt to unravel the legal knots governments tie themselves into trying to get rid of asylum seekers and other migrants suspected of serious criminality to create new policy that simultaneously upholds countries’ criminal laws and migrants’ human rights. Co-led by Dr David Cantor, director of the RLI, and Joris van Wijk, a criminal law expert at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, it will examine the legal and policy challenges posed by such asylum seekers and other migrants. Find out more about the RLI’s work on pages 21 and 43.
People

School announces new directors

SAS was delighted to announce a number of outstanding appointments to its directorship in 2013–14.

Professor Catherine Davies was appointed as director of the Institute of Modern Languages Research (IMLR). Former Professor of Hispanic and Latin American Studies at the University of Nottingham, Catherine Davies is a champion of modern languages research and has taught at the universities of St Andrews and Manchester, and Queen Mary University of London. Find out more about how the IMLR is promoting modern languages research on pages 40–41.

Professor Greg Woolf, an authority on the Roman Empire, was appointed as director of the Institute of Classical Studies. Formerly Professor of Ancient History at St Andrews University, Professor Woolf is a prolific writer who has lectured all over the world as well as holding fellowships in various Oxford and Cambridge colleges. Find out more about the Institute’s work on pages 18–19.

Professor Lawrence Goldman was appointed as the new director of the Institute of Historical Research (IHR). A Cambridge graduate and Oxford University historian, Professor Goldman has, since 2004, also edited the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the national record of men and women who have shaped British history and culture, worldwide, from the Romans to the 21st century. Find out more about the IHR’s support for research on pages 30–31.

“I am taking on this new post with a great sense of responsibility and dedication. The UK has some of the world’s top experts in the languages, cultures and histories of other parts of the globe. This fact is well known in those countries, but generally not in the UK. It is my task to showcase our world-leading, and often pioneering, research to maintain the UK’s status in this field, and to grow and support quality research in modern languages.”

Professor Catherine Davies, newly-appointed director of the Institute of Modern Languages Research
Professor Andrew Hussey was appointed the first director of a new Centre for Post-Colonial Studies and the School’s first Professor of Cultural History. An expert in European and North African relations, Professor Hussey was formerly Dean of the University of London Institute in Paris, a post he held for eight years.

The Victoria County History (VCH) project, which has published historical reference works on English counties for 115 years and is coordinated by the IHR, appointed Professor Richard Hoyle as its new Director and General Editor. Previously Professor of Rural History at the University of Reading, Richard is a leading economic and social historian of early modern England.

Two ST Lee Visiting Professorial Fellows for 2013–14

Two visiting scholars held the prestigious competitively-awarded ST Lee Visiting Professorial Fellowships for 2013–14. Professor Brian Ferneyhough (Stanford University), one of the most original and influential composers in contemporary music, was based at SAS in November 2013, in close association with the Institute of Musical Research. He gave talks and attended performances of his compositions in London, Manchester and Huddersfield.

Dr Lawrence Joseph, the constitutional law expert and President of Grenada’s Senate, was based at the School in March and April 2014, in close association with the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS). Formerly Grenada’s Attorney-General and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Dr Joseph delivered a high-profile public lecture series on constitutionalism, revolutions and the question of legitimacy at IALS, Queen’s University Belfast and the University of Cardiff Law School.

Renowned neuroscientist Professor Colin Blakemore was knighted in the Queen’s Birthday honours in June 2014 for his groundbreaking research in vision and the development of the brain, and for his contribution to scientific policy and outreach. Currently director of the Centre for the Study of the Senses, Professor Blakemore is an influential scientist, an esteemed speaker and adviser on a number of issues and also a Fellow of the Royal Society. Over the years, his many accolades include ten honorary degrees from British and overseas universities and the Friendship Award, China’s highest award for ‘foreign experts who have made outstanding contributions to the country’s economic and social progress’.
Professor Geoffrey Crossick leads new project to investigate monographs and open access

In January 2014, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) launched a new project to investigate the issues regarding open access publishing of monographs and other long-form scholarly works, led by Geoffrey Crossick, Distinguished Professor of the Humanities at SAS. The project, being undertaken in partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council, aims to identify and draw together a body of evidence concerning monographs and open access publishing.

Professor Arthur Grimes takes up NZ-UK Link Foundation visiting professorship

Professor Arthur Grimes, who stepped down as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ), held the NZ-UK Link Foundation Visiting Professorship between September and December 2013. He gave a public lecture series – at the Bank of England, UCL, the LSE and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies – on inflation targeting, exchange rates, macro-prudential policies, and responsibility and accountability in the financial sector.

School awards Heston Blumenthal an honorary doctorate

Heston Blumenthal OBE was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science honoris causa at the School’s graduation ceremony in December 2013. The honour recognises the pioneering research and achievements of the renowned chef and his work with the Institute of Philosophy. Find out more about the Centre’s work on page 20.
Being Human: transforming public engagement with humanities research in the UK

In January 2014, the School – in partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy – received an overwhelming response to its call for participation in the UK’s first national festival of the humanities. Applications to take part came from a wide range of research and cultural institutions, demonstrating both the appetite to showcase the relevance and vitality of humanities research and the School’s potential to take a leading role in changing public perceptions of the humanities.
Researchers in the humanities are often portrayed as a withdrawn, isolated bunch. The time that is spent immersed in libraries and archives and in the close scrutiny of texts of various kinds has given rise to the image of the lone scholar working away in splendid isolation on a masterpiece that may or may not ever see the light of day. Where scientists, particularly in biomedical research, may be able to point readily to a ‘real world’ application for their research, humanities scholars often find this a bigger leap.

In 2013–14 the School of Advanced Study, supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy, launched an initiative that sought to address this issue. Being Human is the first nationwide festival in the UK dedicated to furthering public understanding of the humanities. Led by SAS, the festival has been established with the express purpose of changing the culture of public engagement with humanities research in the UK, taking up the challenge of publicly demonstrating the vitality and social relevance of research in our field.

Reflecting its role as a national research hub for the humanities, the School will also act as a hub for the Being Human festival. In January 2014, it coordinated an open competition to allocate small grants to fund activities and events across the UK. The response was remarkable. More than 100 applications were assessed by the festival steering committee – who looked closely at the proposed events’ capacity to ‘inspire innovation in public engagement’ – and 36 small grants were allocated to participating institutions. The call for self-financed applications continued into the summer and attracted submissions from a wide range of institutions including the British Museum, Barbican Centre and the Wellcome Collection.

Since its January launch, Being Human has expanded to incorporate a programme of events organised by more than 50 universities across the nation, in collaboration with over 100 research institutions and cultural partners. It has grown to have a genuinely UK-wide geographical reach. From the Orkney Islands in the extreme north of Scotland, to the Cornwall campus of the University of Exeter, the festival will offer more than 150 public events in locations encompassing everything from traditional lecture theatres to museums, galleries, community centres, execution sites and remote Scottish beaches.

Public Engagement

SAS is committed to championing the enduring socio-economic value of humanities research through its public engagement activities. Its annual public engagement programme includes launches, talks, festivals and exhibitions. In 2013–14, SAS organised 357 events, a four-fold increase since 2012–13. More than half (52%) were in collaboration with organisations outside higher education in the public and third sectors. More than 10,000 people attended these events, an increase of 64% on the previous year.
Programme highlights of the nine-day event in November will include a memory banquet hosted by food historians at the University of Roehampton, a survey of eight generations of Manchester youth culture undertaken by documentary filmmakers at Manchester Metropolitan University, a joke-telling computer interacting with the public at the Brunel University, and a series of events, ‘Rediscovering Dylan’, linked to uncovering and challenging the legacies of Dylan Thomas. This is not to mention the School of Advanced Study’s own extensive contribution to the programme, which will see the creation of a Human Library where people borrow academics rather than books and a day of activities themed around ‘Being human in a digital age’.

It is anticipated that the Being Human festival will offer numerous opportunities for dialogue and communication – for researchers to speak across disciplinary divides and to those outside of the academy. From the innovative programme of events, to discussions taking place on the festival’s various digital platforms, Being Human has inspired a rich and diverse range of public engagement activity in the humanities, and will create a new network of engaged scholars. As the organisers of ‘Punch and Judy’s chocolate cornucopia of human knowledge’ at the School of Humanities, Royal College of Art, noted:

“This was, we felt, an opportunity to construct something […] anchored very much within the public sphere. We wanted to offer something lively, interactive, conversational […]. This would be playful, even humorous, we decided. We did not want to broadcast a predetermined academic discourse; we would not offer a lecture series or conference.’

The scale, breadth and diversity of the response to Being Human has demonstrated an appetite among humanities scholars to find new ways of engaging the public with their research. In a year in which SAS has also become a signatory of the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement’s Manifesto for Public Engagement, Being Human has underlined the School’s potential to take a leading role in changing public perceptions of the nature of the humanities and of putting the public at the heart of research culture in the UK.

“The Being Human festival promises to be a key focal point for a renaissance in public engagement with the humanities. How so? It goes without saying that humanities researchers engage with the public in a variety of ways, and many do it rather well. However [festival director] Professor Barry Smith suggests that, despite this, there is still too little public understanding of the value and nature of humanities research. The Being Human festival aims to address this through establishing an annual event where humanities scholars from across the UK put down their books, and seek to engage the public in a week of thoughtful, challenging and engaging activity.”

Sophie Duncan, Deputy Director of the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement
The Naukratis Project

One of the most important activities of any SAS Institute is to promote and encourage cutting-edge research and to ensure that the results of projects are given the widest possible circulation among the whole research community and to a wider audience. The Naukratis Project is one example of how the Institute of Classical Studies (ICS) uses its limited funding to do just this.

Given in May 2014 by Naukratis Project members at the British Museum, led by Alexandra Villing, a curator in its Department of Greece and Rome, this lecture was highly successful. It highlighted the Institute’s important work in publicising new research and fostering debate with implications for many different humanities topics. The Institute is collaborating with the Leverhulme Trust and the British Academy to support this international and interdisciplinary project, which involves some 70 institutions worldwide with contributions from ICS researchers.

Naukratis is a famous archaeological site in the Nile Delta, which was excavated repeatedly in the 19th and 20th centuries, most famously by Sir Flinders Petrie who rediscovered the site in 1884. Founded in the seventh century BCE and still active into the seventh century CE, the city was an important trading port, having documented connections with 12 different Greek cities, here involved in a unique economic venture on Egyptian soil. Classical scholars have traditionally viewed the site as essentially Greek, in effect a Greek colonial settlement founded, occupied and sustained by Greek traders and settlers, perhaps even against initial Egyptian resistance.

The Naukratis Project aims to reassess this conception critically, combining the work of Classical and Egyptological historians, archaeologists and scientists. At its core is the

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**INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL STUDIES (ICS): EVENTS**

In 2013–14, the Institute organised a wide range of research dissemination events. It held **194 conferences, lectures and seminars** given by **506 speakers** and attended by **7,005 participants**. 700 of these speakers and participants (9%) came from outside the UK. Almost one in five of these events (34 events representing 18% of the ICS annual programme) were organised in collaboration with other organisations, both within and outside of higher education.
online publication that, in the virtual space of the internet, reassembles some 20,000 finds from these earlier excavations, distributed today between some 60 museums worldwide, where they have remained largely unstudied and unpublished. Meanwhile, extensive archival documentation of 19th-century and later excavations makes it possible to recontextualise these finds. The Project’s own new fieldwork at Naukratis is also supplying more vital clues to reconstruct the port’s history and that of its inhabitants.

The lecture showed that this combined research has unearthed quite unexpected conclusions. Far from being an essentially Greek site, it now seems that Egyptians played an important role from the very beginning; that there were major Egyptian as well as Greek buildings in the city; and that many Egyptian finds have been overlooked or at least underestimated in previous work. The site’s archaeology also demonstrates the close links that this Graeco-Egyptian settlement had with other regions such as Cyprus and Phoenicia. These major discoveries raise important issues not only about these cross-cultural interactions, but also about the practices and preconceptions of scholarship in the humanities: why should the Greek elements have been so advertised in the past and why should other elements have been so neglected? One answer could be that 19th-century scholars regularly looked for Greek achievements everywhere and, as a result, failed to appreciate the achievements of the highly civilised non-Greek peoples around the Mediterranean. But, in fact rather surprisingly, a ‘Greek agenda’ was still being promoted as much, if not more, by 20th-century scholarship, as by the 19th-century pioneers.

Research at Naukratis is set to continue, but the project is already contributing to our understanding of how ancient cultures interacted and how modern interpretations of such processes can be affected by changing scholarly perspectives. Supporting and showcasing such fresh approaches, which cross disciplinary boundaries and provoke sensitive issues, provides important opportunities for the ICS to influence research agendas, both in the UK and beyond.
What does your sense of smell mean to you?

The best public engagement is underpinned by world-class research. In March, the Institute of Philosophy’s Centre for the Study of the Senses held a launch event for the national charity Fifth Sense that brought together leading researchers, clinicians, campaigners and loss-of-smell sufferers to raise awareness of the effect on people’s quality of life if they lose their sense of smell.

The Centre for the Study of the Senses often calls on its wide range of international partners to create events that bring the latest findings to the national subject communities and the wider public. Its launch event for Fifth Sense included an international workshop, open to all interested parties, that featured leading researchers on olfaction (the sense of smell) from philosophy, psychology and neuroscience. Jay Gottfried (Chicago) discussed the close connection of sense of smell to memory and emotion; Juyan Lim (Oregon) explained why odours reaching our nose from the mouth are experienced as tastes. Ilona Croy, from Europe’s leading centre for the study of olfaction in Dresden, and Spanish philosopher, Marta Tafalla, spoke about the many roles smell plays in everyday life. Marta, who was born without a sense of smell, and unable to taste most flavours, spoke movingly about her search to find out what she was missing. Philosophers and psychologists from the universities of Glasgow, Oxford, Roehampton and Warwick were invited to comment on these talks.

The following day, the team from the Centre joined together with clinicians, medical researchers, campaigners and anosmia (loss of smell) sufferers from Fifth Sense to explore life without this sense. Patients spoke of the emotional changes the loss had caused, while others spoke of ways to work around the condition. Fifth Sense founder Duncan Boake and Professor Barry Smith (director of the Institute of Philosophy), spoke about the role of smell in creating the experience of flavour. Duncan revealed how his interest in food now focused on texture and the basic tastes of sweet and sour, salt and bitter, and he offered advice to anosmia sufferers to enhance their experience of eating.

The day’s event generated a lot of press attention and raised awareness of how important our often-neglected sense of smell is, and researchers from the workshop spoke of the importance and significance that patients’ testimonies gave to their research.

“What we know as ‘taste’ is really taste, touch and smell; you don’t have strawberry receptors on your tongue, for example – that’s all smell.”
Professor Barry Smith, Institute of Philosophy
Dr David Cantor, Director of the Refugee Law Initiative and Reader in International Human Rights Law, has been asked by the Nansen Initiative to draft the world’s first set of guidelines for the protection of people fleeing across borders as a result of natural disasters. These will be considered by the Regional Conference on Migration, comprised of both North and Central American States.

As Dr Cantor explains, ‘the Nansen Initiative, launched in October 2012 by the governments of Switzerland and Norway, is a bottom-up consultative process which aims to build consensus on the development of a protection agenda for people displaced by natural hazards, including the effects of climate change.’ ‘Such problems’, he adds, ‘are of growing concern, given that climate change-related movements are only likely to increase, and currently national and international responses to the challenge of climate change and resultant displacement are inadequate to secure the protection of affected people.’

The Refugee Law Initiative has already explored the issue of forced displacement as a result of climate change. Earlier in 2013 it held a workshop which examined the scope for protection of displaced persons under refugee and human rights law, led by Bruce Burson of the New Zealand Immigration and Protection Tribunal and Matthew Scott of Lund University. Dr Cantor says, ‘the workshop aimed to facilitate the role of practitioners and courts in using new legal research to shape legal responses to climate change-related displacement, thus transforming research into practice which would have a lasting impact on the legal world.’

Dr Cantor’s recommendations will draw on his knowledge of forced displacement in the Americas resulting from research undertaken under the auspices of his Economic and Social Research Council-funded project ‘Pushing the boundaries: new dynamics of forced migration and transnational responses in Latin America’. Equally, however, he will draw on the expertise and specialist knowledge of a network of researchers at all stages of their career working in the field of International Refugee Law. As he explains, ‘the Refugee Law Initiative established the Doctoral Affiliates and Senior Research Associates networks in order to enable greater sharing of research findings and best practice, and so has established a resource which has contributed greatly to the deepening of research into the various issues of International Refugee Law.’

As Dr Cantor concludes, ‘the intersections between the effects of climate change and the impact on human rights are being explored extensively by the Human Rights Consortium and Refugee Law Initiative’. He gives the example of the Extreme Energy Initiative, led by Dr Damien Short, which ‘examines the impact of new extractive energy techniques on human rights, particularly the right to protest and the rights of indigenous people to access land’.

nanseninitiative.org
The regional seminar series scheme at the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) has made an important contribution to enhancing and strengthening the sharing of research and developing of national networks outside of London.

While many research seminars are held in London across different universities, it is not always possible for researchers across the UK to go to them, and regular attendance is very difficult. Scholars of Latin America and the Caribbean are also widely dispersed geographically, so the Institute's scheme provides support for conveners in regional universities to organise a seminar series around a particular theme in order that they can meet and attend more regularly than would otherwise be possible.

A key aim of the scheme has been to encourage inter-institutional collaborations between

“...We would like to thank the Institute of Latin American Studies for its generous support of the events held this year and are confident that the investment will have long-term benefits in promoting Latin American studies in Wales and beyond.”

Dr Lloyd Davies, Swansea University and Dr Lucy Taylor, Aberystwyth University
regional universities in the UK. Instead of showcasing the research of one institution or department, organisers of the seminar series are asked to hold events across two or more universities.

By encouraging an interdisciplinary approach and facilitating networking, the series will have an impact on the regional Latin American scholarly communities beyond the events themselves. In Wales, for example, the seminars have led to a research group being formed to focus on connections between Cuba and Venezuela, the establishment of a database of Latin Americanist scholars working in Wales, and the creation of a website and monthly blog. These outcomes are laying the basis for longer-term collaborations, including a conference and the production of publications strengthening Latin American studies within Wales.

“...The funding we received from ILAS could not have come at a more opportune moment. [It]... enabled us to work together in order to increase the visibility of American and Latin American Studies [and...] to demonstrate to our respective institutions the significant potential for growth and future cooperation in this area. [We] hope to be able to work together in the supervision and training of new doctoral students in the future.”

Dr Sarah Bowskill, Newcastle University. In March 2014, Newcastle University approved the establishment of a Research Centre in Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Tierradentro, Colombia (seventh to ninth century) is one of the great pre-Columbian attractions. There are burial caves painted with red, black and white geometric patterns. Some are shallow, others up to 8m deep. Image: © Rafal Cichawa/ Shutterstock.
The Social Scholar

The School launched its popular Social Scholar seminar series in 2013–14, to inform, train and encourage dialogue between humanities researchers on the benefits (and pitfalls) of using social media to support and promote their research.

The Social Scholar lunchtime seminar series – initiated with JISC funding for the School’s one-year social media assessment for research transfer (SMART) project – ran for the first time in 2013–14. It proved popular among staff and students within SAS, across London and in other parts of the UK. A total of seven seminars were run on the topic of social media in the research environment with the aim of informing, training, and opening up discussion. In this task, the seminars were a huge success, provoking lively conversation and debate and providing a legacy of useful resources online.

Speakers included the editor of the Guardian Higher Education Network, Claire Shaw, and the head of BBC Online, Myles Runham, who both talked about the social media strategy in their companies to packed rooms. Julian Harrison from the British Library advocated the use of blogs as a channel for dissemination and communication, while successful academic blogger and former LSE Impact blog editor, Mark Carrigan, talked about the many benefits of blogging and its use as a platform for sharing research. Anne Alexander from the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (University of Cambridge) called on the audience to consider the ethical risks that Twitter and other social media automatically entails, provoking strong debate about the pros and cons of Twitter as a communication tool. Kajsa Hartig (Nordiska Museum, Stockholm) and Kat Box (Manchester Museum) gave a fascinating talk on how their museums use social media to engage audiences in their exhibits. Finally, the School’s own Dot Fallon and independent consultant on social media, Abhay Adhikari, talked about their experience of running a social media campaign for the Arts and Humanities Research Council Science in Culture theme.

In total 138 people, including academics, students, and research support staff, attended the sessions, 17 of whom came from outside London. The reach of each seminar goes further than the event itself. The Social Scholar has a ‘virtual’ home on the SAS Blog, where forthcoming events are advertised, videos are embedded with summaries from the sessions, and interviews with speakers are presented. Out of 15,655 total page views to the blog in 2013–14, 1,741 were for Social Scholar posts representing 11 per cent of total views to the blog. The videos of each session have been viewed just shy of 800 times in total (792 views) on YouTube.

The Social Scholar provided a successful example of impact this year by encouraging academics, support staff and students to use social media tools and to discuss their capabilities and limitations in an informal environment. The seminars’ legacy lives on with another programme of events in 2014–15 and a growing collection of online materials.
Encounters with the Orient in early modern European scholarship

Awarded nearly €1 million (£0.8 million) over three years by Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA), ‘Encounters with the Orient in early modern European scholarship’ is a joint research project led by the Warburg Institute’s Centre for the History of Arabic Studies in Europe (CHASE).

Beginning in September 2013, the Encounters project involves six academic and three non-academic partners: the Warburg Institute, University of Kent, FU Berlin, Erfurt University, Literaturhaus Berlin, University of Amsterdam, Leiden University library, Rijksmuseum van Oudheden and the University of Jyväskylä.

Through a number of case studies, conferences, and an exhibition, the project explores the early modern scholarly European encounter with oriental cultures, languages and religions between c. 1500 and 1800. Its three main objectives are to describe the scholarly and religious incentives for this encounter between Europe and the Orient; to document the exchange of knowledge, ideas, values and material objects stimulated in the early modern period; and to explore the institutional, conceptual and religious transformations that were initiated in theology and biblical studies, in the teaching and learning of Arabic and other Oriental languages, in literature and poetry, and in historical and anthropological thinking in general.

The project was launched with the opening of a six-month exhibition, from September 2013 until March 2014, at the National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden. The exhibition, co-funded by HERA, celebrated the long tradition of Arabic studies in the Netherlands. The curators, Arnoud Vrolijk and Richard van Leeuwen, also wrote an exhibition catalogue, which provides a richly illustrated history of Arabic studies in the Netherlands. With the support of HERA and the project, the catalogue was translated by Professor Alastair Hamilton (the Warburg Institute) and appeared as Arabic studies in the Netherlands: A short history in portraits, 1580–1950 (Leiden, 2013).

In November, a conference on ‘The learning and teaching of Arabic in early modern Europe’ was held at the National Museum of Antiquities, complementing and supplementing the exhibition above. This conference discussed the teaching of Arabic in the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Spain and England in the early modern period.

Preparations are being made for publishing the conference proceedings (with other invited papers) in a series dedicated to the output from the HERA project. In May, HERA held a two-day conference on the ‘“The Christian Turks”: Religious and Cultural Encounters in the Ottoman-Habsburg Contact Zone’ at the Central European University’s Centre for Religious Studies.

This major international research project will provide academic leadership in the field by supporting and coordinating the work of scholars in nine European countries. The academic staff and resources of the Warburg Institute and the outstanding library resources of the Institute, SOAS and the British Library convinced the European Research Council of its leadership role in this field.

www.kent.ac.uk/ewto
Bringing unparalleled world-class resources to researchers around the globe

Jackie Marfleet, formerly Head of Advice and Records Knowledge (ARK) at The National Archives, has more than 20 years of experience within the library, information and knowledge management sectors. She has worked in both the private and public sectors and was previously the British Library’s Head of Reference and Research. Appointed to the new role of Librarian in April 2014, Jackie will be dedicated to facilitating increased collaboration between SAS, the Senate House Library (SHL) and the national and global research communities they serve.
With more than two million books and over 1,200 archival collections, Jackie has responsibility for the strategic leadership and management of one of the UK’s largest academic libraries focused on the arts, humanities and social sciences. It’s a responsibility that she embraces, having worked previously at the British Library and The National Archives. ‘It was a privilege to have access to such unique material and I believe that the collections at Senate House Library are equally unique and iconic. Opening up and broadening access to the collections ... and promoting their research value is a key task for the Library and I was attracted to the opportunity to do this and to reinforce the Library’s key role in supporting greater public engagement with our collections.’

Under Jackie’s leadership, SAS and its seven libraries, and the Senate House Library, will enjoy an ever-closer working relationship, partnering on a range of activities including conferences, exhibitions, public engagement initiatives and external grant applications. The two organisations will continue to consult on areas of collection development and promotion and, in 2014–15, will begin to share resources for marketing and web development.

‘SAS is home to world-class specialist research libraries, services and expertise at the heart of research promotion and facilitation. They attract a diverse range of scholars nationally and internationally who contribute to the School as an intellectual and disciplinary crossroads for researchers. The activities of these libraries extend to research training, the creation of digital research tools, and the innovative exploitation of their rich collections. The SAS Libraries have always played a major part in collaborative agreements, which enable them to support the research provision by individual university libraries throughout the UK. They accommodate new perspectives and new research trends through their broad national mission, their continuous development, and their commitment to the conservation of extensive historical materials. They are increasingly partners of choice in research projects and initiatives which bring together scholars and curators and offer a new and exciting future for the research environment.’

Jules Winterton, Director of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and Pro-Dean for Libraries

“The Warburg Institute offers resources for my research that are simply not available elsewhere and that might fundamentally alter the direction of my research. Moreover, for my research interests, the resources provided by the Institute of Classical Studies library are second to none. This was particularly welcome, as I would like to start a new project in Ancient Greek Rhetoric and the ... library, with its close collaboration with the Societies for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies and Roman Studies, is one of the best!”

Dr Frédérique Woerther, French National Centre for Scientific Research; Visiting Fellow 2013–14
A decade after its launch as a print journal, Stephen Mason’s innovative journal *Digital Evidence and Electronic Signature Law Review* is now available online as an Open Access version. It brings articles, legal developments and case reports to academics, practitioners and the industry in relation to digital evidence and electronic signatures from across the world. It has been developed by Stephen Mason (founder, publisher and general editor) with the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies on the SAS Open Journals System – further raising the visibility and accessibility of the journal and its contents. This development will safeguard free online access to all the back issues for legal researchers, support the publication of publicly available future issues and help stimulate new areas of legal discussion and scholarship.

[journals.sas.ac.uk/deeslr](journals.sas.ac.uk/deeslr)

Jackie identifies three key strategic priorities for the SHL: the enhancement of the researcher and student experience; the promotion of the value of the collection and services beyond Bloomsbury; and the continued innovation and development of value-added services.

She is keen to see the Library and its staff working more closely with its users. ‘My role ... enables me to facilitate increased collaboration between the Library and its staff and the research community that we support. We have unique skills and knowledge and the opportunity to contribute to the training of future researchers’.

In addition to its close working relationship with SAS, Jackie believes that the SHL ‘has a key role to play in partnering with other libraries and repositories across the cultural sector to access research materials and to identify material that will help to inform scholarly debate.’

For Jackie, the Library’s value lies in ‘the depth and breadth’ of its collections and ‘the subject expertise of the Research Librarians’, who are able to ‘identify the hidden collections that will form the core of future research projects’.
The IALS Library is a national and international resource for legal research. The collections of foreign and international law are the most extensive in the UK and contain much unique material.

In 2013–14, the Library recorded:

- Readers and registrations: 6,632
- Visits: 120,970
- E-resource page views: 52,834,390
- Loans: 36,245
- Items: 310,771
- Print acquisitions: 3,347
- Current serial titles: 2,839
- Research training attendees: 2,578

and to identify opportunities for broadening access to the collections through a programme of digitisation and increased outreach with new audiences.

‘At the heart of my vision ... is a heightened profile for the Library and the subject matter experts, both internally and externally, to ensure that the Library and its unique resources are at the core of research undertaken both within the School and the wider research community.’

In 2013–14, SAS was committed to continuing to serve North American studies scholars, following the closure of the Institute for the Study of the Americas. Dr Benjamin Bankhurst, a post-doctoral fellow who was appointed in April to develop and raise awareness of its specialist resources, says: ‘SAS is at the heart of a thriving international community of American Studies scholars and students. Much of my work so far has been devoted to cultivating and publicising the Institute of Historical Research’s North American collections. Recent discoveries testify to their richness. I have uncovered and displayed several library items by American Founding Father, the Jeffersonian politician Albert Gallatin. I have compiled Canadian and US collection guides and arranged student-focused workshops and presentations. Important collections elsewhere in SAS include those in the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, whose archival collection of Foreign and Commonwealth Office papers dating from the 17th century detail the legal history of Canada and the Caribbean. By heightening awareness of these resources we hope to continue to attract researchers from around the globe.’

Dr Benjamin Bankhurst, Post-Doctoral Fellow in North American History

The Institute of Musical Research’s online presence continues to grow. The Francophone Music Criticism network is developing a searchable archive of 19th- and early 20th-century French press reviews, which exceed 3 million words. Research films, which support postgraduate courses in composition and performance studies in the UK and across the globe, have received over 108,000 views on YouTube and several thousand downloads from iTunes U. Several of the films have been shown in public festivals, including Total Immersion: Brian Ferneyhough in London, Fernsehforum für Musik in Bremen, Monday Evening Concert Series in Los Angeles, and have provided the source material for three monographs.

music.sas.ac.uk/music-video
music.sas.ac.uk/fmc
International exchange programme forges networks between UK and US postgraduate historians

As part of the Institute’s desire to extend its networks and collaborations more globally and with a strategic commitment to enhancing the postgraduate student experience, the IHR established a cultural exchange programme with Northwestern University in spring 2014.

In March, eight students from Northwestern visited London. Their programme included a two-day conference, a visit to The National Archives, and workshops on using digital archives, interdisciplinary resources and public speaking. The visit was reciprocated with eight students from History Lab travelling to Chicago in May, when they attended a lecture and conference and visited a number of cultural sites, including the Newberry Library.

Students paired up for the exchange. History Lab fielded students from universities across the UK, including Cambridge, Edinburgh, Kent and London (King’s College, Queen Mary and Royal Holloway).

The exchange provides postgraduate students – in at least their second year at either Master’s or PhD level – with the opportunity to explore the differences and

HISTORY LAB

History Lab is a national network of students studying history at postgraduate level, funded by the Institute of Historical Research (IHR). It was established in 2007–8 by a group of IHR-registered Master’s students. Since its conception History Lab has grown its membership to over 1,000 and has since spawned a network of early career researchers: History Lab Plus. Both networks run an annual series of informative events on the broader issues which postgraduate and early career historians face, including workshops on method and skills training, getting published and life after a PhD, as well as an annual conference. Their ‘meet the historians’ evenings allow members to hear some of today’s most prominent historians discussing their life, career and thoughts about the discipline in an informal environment.

history.ac.uk/historylab
similarities between the UK and the US in respect of their academic areas.

The programme offers a unique opportunity for postgraduate students from across the UK, via the History Lab network, to enrich their research experience and subject understanding and to create lasting connections across the UK as well as the US. It aims to broaden educational perspectives, explore new areas and ways of working and provide added value to both their academic studies and to the students as individuals. In turn, participants take their experiences and widened perspectives back to their home institutions to share with their peers.

The programme was welcomed by Northwestern’s Director of the Chabraja Centre for Historical Studies, Professor Sara Maza: ‘I want to stress what a positive and enriching program the IHR/NU exchange was for all of us. The highlight for me in London was the IHR conference which provided us with a feast of admirable scholarship and a memorable keynote by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto.’

“I found the Northwestern-IHR exchange programme thoroughly rewarding. Not only did I have the opportunity to experience a different academic environment at Northwestern, but I was also able to expand my academic networks [and] ... share research with new colleagues.” Claire Trener, PhD Candidate, Royal Holloway, University of London

“The exchange gave me the chance to meet a great group of junior and senior scholars from both sides of the Atlantic. It was particularly interesting to discuss the differences in PhD programmes – and academia more generally – between the UK and the US.” Teresa Segura Garcia, PhD candidate, University of Cambridge

“[It was]... an invaluable experience that helped me learn about archives and libraries important for my research, meet other scholars in my field, and discover Britain’s academic culture. I’m sure to return to some of the archives we explored as I finish my dissertation...” Blake Smith, PhD candidate, Northwestern University

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS SUPPORTED BY SAS

In 2013–14, SAS supported 305 networks, representing a 12% increase from the previous year, of which more than 18,000 individual researchers and over 4,000 institutions hold membership. More than half (53%) of these networks contributed directly to the School’s events programme and 21% to its publication activities. 62% are national networks.
Quantitative research methods: addressing the gap in humanities research training

In 2013–14, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies led the development of a new national research training course on quantitative research methods specifically created for humanities researchers.

The ten-week course, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, was designed to give humanities researchers with no prior statistical experience the ability to approach quantitative work with confidence. It combined classroom and lab-based seminars to give a practical introduction to the skills and techniques of working with quantitative data. Master classes were delivered by distinguished academics and leading professionals outside the academic sector, who described the application of these techniques to their own work in a variety of different contexts. The programme addressed a gap which commonly emerges, particularly in places like the UK where subject-specialisation occurs at an early stage. As a result, humanities researchers may have limited engagement with and understanding of quantitative research methods.

The course sought to provide students with the context and theory behind different research methods, while also introducing them to specific skills and techniques, which they were encouraged to apply progressively to their own research.

A key aspect of the course’s success was the breadth and range of statistical techniques students were introduced to, ranging from simple database management to modelling and Geographic Information Systems. Over the course of the lab-based training sessions, students received a thorough grounding in the use of statistical software packages which would be important for future quantitative work.

Evening lectures, which were open to all to attend, provided participants with an insight into how senior figures in the academic and non-academic worlds use data and quantitative methods to deepen their understanding of particular problems and to answer research questions. These ranged from the impact of economic crises in the 17th century to the analysis of official statistics for the purposes of government.

The course was particularly timely. Digital humanities is emerging to become a critical field, enabling researchers to answer research questions and challenge existing research orthodoxies using computational methods and approaches which are pioneering in their application to the humanities. Its significance is likely to grow considerably over the course of the next ten years, meaning that knowledge and understanding of quantitative and computational methods will be critical for those now commencing their academic careers. In addition, research training of this nature strengthens the field by providing early career scholars with the tools required to take it forward. To maximise its reach and accessibility, the programme has been developed as an online training course.
Emerging research in human rights

The Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI) annual conference in September 2013 brought together over 100 researchers from across Europe – from doctoral students to senior academics – to discuss emerging research in human rights. The Human Rights Consortium (HRC) co-organised and hosted the three-day event at a crucial time for the network and its executive.

The AHRI is a network of 47 member institutions across 22 countries – from Åbo Akademi University in Finland to the University of Zurich in Switzerland – which conduct research and carry out education in the field of human rights. It brings together researchers in an interdisciplinary context to promote human rights research, education and discussion, often including a strong policy-oriented element. It has, in particular, provided support in facilitating cross-institutional collaborations and career-building assistance to doctoral researchers.

With its funding from the European Cooperation in Science and Technology ending, there were clear challenges for the network’s sustainability. The HRC, a member of AHRI for several years, offered to host its 13th annual conference to ensure that it could go ahead, in keeping with the Consortium’s national and international role to support research in human rights.

The first day closed with an evening panel discussion at the Houses of Parliament about international perspectives on the UK’s key priorities at the UN Human Rights Council, which included Jeremy Corbyn MP, Nicole Piche (All-Party Parliamentary Group on Human Rights) and Clive Baldwin (Senior Legal Advisor at Human Rights Watch), chaired by Ann Clwyd MP. The engaged debate that followed indicated the importance of grounding human rights research in contemporary challenges and the need for policy responses to these challenges to be research-led.

On the second and third day, research students were invited to present and discuss their research, in keeping with the HRC’s long-standing support for and promotion of the work of doctoral students working in the field of human rights. Following their presentations, many students indicated that they would be building formal and informal research-based networks after meeting fellow researchers.

In addition to being a stimulating event in its own right, it was agreed that the responses to the conference indicated the critical importance of the AHRI network in supporting the work of researchers and proved the will of members to ensure the network could sustain itself and grow. The HRC’s contribution to the future of the network, through its co-organisation, hosting and support for the annual conference at a critical stage, was acknowledged across the network and within its executive.
Bilderfahrzeuge: Aby Warburg’s legacy and the future of iconology

A major international research collaboration was announced in December 2013 that will explore the migration of images, objects, commodities and texts across history and geography. The five-year interdisciplinary project Bilderfahrzeuge is intended to make a fundamental contribution to our understanding of cultural history.

At the celebrations in London in December 2013 to mark the 80th anniversary of the migration of the Warburg Institute from Hamburg to London, the chief secretary of the German Ministry of Education and Research, Cornelia Quennet-Thielen, announced the inauguration of ‘Bilderfahrzeuge: Aby Warburg’s legacy and the future of iconology’. This collaborative research project brings the Institute together with four partners across Europe: the German Centre for Art History in Paris, Berlin’s Humboldt University, the Max-Planck-Institute for Art History in Florence and Hamburg’s Warburg-Haus. It is funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research with €5.4 million (£4.3 million) over five years and administered in collaboration with the Max Weber Foundation.

‘Bilderfahrzeuge’, literally meaning image vehicles, is a term coined by the German scholar Aby Warburg (1866–1929). It represents a concept that was of great significance for Warburg since his work sought to trace lines of continuity such as the ones that link Antiquity with the Renaissance. Those lines he felt materialised out of nothing other than the ‘Bildwanderung’, the migration of images. Bilderfahrzeuge sets out to explore the migration of images, objects, commodities, texts, in short, the migration of ideas in a broad historical and geographical context.

The project will provide a fundamental contribution to cultural history – through a history of images and ideas practised in an interdisciplinary and international setting. The research is supervised by five directors representing the participating institutions and executed by 12 scientific collaborators, eight of them working at the Warburg Institute in close contact with their four colleagues who are each situated at one of the other institutes.

The Warburg Institute was chosen as the hub for this project because of its intellectual tradition, the exceptional strength of its library and photographic collection in the fields of iconology and intercultural relations, and because of its
comprehensive holdings of the manuscripts and letters of Aby Warburg and his collaborators. The scientific project partners benefit from contact with the international community of scholars established around the Institute, including visiting fellows, research fellows, graduate and doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows, university teachers from around the world and distinguished UK-based researchers and writers. At the same time the research project, through its own network of international institutions and through the variety of its scientific collaborators’ disciplinary backgrounds – art historians are working together with medievalists, comparativists and philosophers – offers a whole set of possible collaborations for scholars in SAS and the UK.

The individual research projects include studies of the migration of cultural and scientific objects from Spain to Asia via Latin America (and vice versa) and the changes in meaning and use they underwent through these journeys, of the uses of Byzantine coins in South Asia, their significance in tracing routes of cultural migration and mechanisms of colonial interpretation, and of the meaning of the conservation and display of images from different cultures and periods in ‘image havens’ such as medieval Palermo and 18th-century Dresden.

The project has held its first workshop on the ‘rhetoric of images’, which attracted lively discussion from a well-informed audience. Future workshops will discuss the architectural staging of images and possible lessons for the study of images from the cognitive turn in archaeology.

bilderfahrzeuge.org
Medieval and modern manuscripts in the digital age

A week-long, immersive programme on all aspects of the study of medieval and modern manuscripts is one of the Institute of English Studies’ flagship research training events. In 2013–14, the course was significantly revised to include the study of modern manuscripts, received a funding boost and was adopted by the European Commission’s Digital Scholarly Training Network.

Set up in 2009, the Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded Medieval and Modern Manuscripts in the Digital Age (MMSDA) course ran as a collaboration between the Institute of English Studies, the Warburg Institute, King’s College London and the University of Cambridge. Since its inception, it has provided specialist training in medieval palaeography to mainly UK students.

The MMSDA course is an intensive training programme on the analysis, description and editing of manuscripts held jointly in Cambridge and London. It stresses the practical application of theoretical principles and gives participants both a solid theoretical foundation and also ‘hands-on’ experience in the cataloguing and editing of original medieval and modern manuscripts in both print and digital formats.

In 2013–14, the course was significantly revised to include a modern strand for the first time. With coverage now spanning more than ten centuries of manuscript production, the course is absolutely unique in range and substance. No other programme exists that includes the palaeographical and codicological study of manuscripts after 1700.

Among the manuscripts that students were able to handle were the notebooks of Charles Darwin, literary drafts by Byron, Tennyson and W. H. Auden, as well as the 13th-century Mortuary Roll of Amphelisa Prioress of Lillecherch, the 11th-century ‘Corpus Prudentius’ and the ‘Red Book’ of Darley.

In its new form, the programme reflects the Institute’s and School’s growing activity and reputation in the cross-disciplinary study of manuscripts. Building on existing collaborations, MMSDA was this year incorporated in the Digital Scholarly Editions Initial Training Network (DiXiT). A Marie Curie Action, funded by the European Commission 7th Framework Programme, DiXiT is an international network of high-profile institutions from the public and private sectors. It provides the funding for MMSDA as well as adding an all-important, new international dimension. Additional sponsorship in 2014 was provided by NeDiMAH: Network for Digital Methods in the Arts and Humanities.

INSTITUTE OF ENGLISH STUDIES: RESEARCH TRAINING

In 2013–14, the Institute provided more than 475 hours of research training attended by 502 participants, 29% (146) of whom came from outside the UK. Almost a third (30%) of participants were current Master’s degree and PhD students.
“I attended the medieval strand of MMSDA 2014. For a whole week we were immersed in studying manuscripts and learning about the theoretical and practical aspects of digital editing technologies. The expertise of the speakers, the impressive range of rare and valuable manuscripts we were able to work with at Senate House Library and the Library of Christ Church College, and (not least) the international exchange with other PhD students all made MMSDA 2014 a useful preparation for my PhD work and a great personal experience.”

Frederike Neuber, Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities, University of Graz

RESEARCH ON LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND THE LEGAL PROFESSIONS

The W. G. Hart Legal Workshop is a major annual legal research event organised and hosted by the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies for both established international scholars and early career researchers. Over the years this eponymous series, subsidised by funds from the W. G. Hart Bequest, has focused on a wide range of comparative and international legal issues and topical interests.

The 2014 workshop on ‘Legal education and training and the professions’ was held in June. Legal education is going through a period of unprecedented change and the workshop provided an important opportunity for reflection on these changes and specifically on the report and recommendations published last year by the Legal Education and Training Review. The workshop addressed changes proposed by the Review and broader issues of what is, and what should be, the role of legal education; whether legal education should continue to seek to provide a liberal, humanist education (and whether it will even be able to do so), or whether the emphasis on the market inevitably means that legal education will become tailored to the demands of the profession.

The 2014 workshop which brought together some 80 academics to discuss these and other issues, both practical and pedagogical, included contributions from America, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong and Israel, and from the regulators for England and Wales. Keynote addresses were given by professors Richard Abel (UCLA Law School) and Harry Arthurs (Osgoode Hall Law School, Canada).

ials.sas.ac.uk/research/hart/wgh_legal_workshop.htm
What is the mind?

In December 2013, SAS launched The Human Mind Project in response to the need for a more coordinated approach to understanding the mind across the sciences and the humanities. This ground-breaking interdisciplinary project is led by Sir Colin Blakemore, the first Professor of Neuroscience and Philosophy at the University of London.

The question about the nature and significance of the human mind is as old as mankind. The concept of mind has evolved through a rich cultural history, and it has assumed ever more specialised meanings. Over the past decades, scientists have contributed greater understanding of the location and form of mental processes – the very same processes so brilliantly captured through introspection by poets and musicians, social leaders and theorists of culture, philosophers and novelists, in a timeless effort to unveil the mysteries of the human mind.

Brain research has opened unprecedented new paths for research and training. Its growth in strength and influence has also boosted significant new investments in ambitious research programs. But talk of the success of neuroscience often masks the absence of a clear definition of what the mind is. This would call for a more coordinated effort to share techniques and data not only at the boundaries of the conventional cognitive sciences, but across the sciences and the humanities more generally. The time has come to promote a mature, critical and dispassionate analysis of the state of the art of research on the mind, and to lay the groundwork for future cross-disciplinary collaboration and the application of technology and ideas from one area of research to another.

The School took the lead in conducting this exercise and launched The Human Mind Project on 12 December 2013. Led by Sir Colin Blakemore and coordinated by Mattia Gallotti, The Human Mind Project serves as a hub for extensive collaborative initiatives designed to provide the resources to tackle the major intellectual challenges in understanding mental life. Several members of the newly appointed Advisory Board including Professor Barry Smith, Director of the Institute of Philosophy and Arts and Humanities Research Council Leadership Fellow, attended the inaugural event and took part in the public debate on ‘What’s so special about the human mind?’, presenting their views on the timeliness and potential of the Project.

In its first months, the project has drawn increasing visibility and the support of a large international network of experts from relevant disciplines in the humanities and the sciences, including leading academics as such as Noam Chomsky, Onora O’Neill, Vittorio Gallese and
Marina Warner. The Advisory Board now includes highly distinguished scholars from the UK and overseas and will continue to grow in the near future. The overarching goal is to guarantee disciplinary representation and foster intensive consultation on cutting-edge topics. This debate is being conducted through web-based internal dialogue, as well as working groups and external activities targeted at the academic and other communities.

Interdisciplinary work has become common practice among theorists and scientists of the mind. It has also made its way into public discussions. The project’s events on ‘Meanings of mind’ and ‘Computers and minds’ featured the lively participation of academics and the public, with talks by leading scholars, including Tim Crane (Knightbridge Professor of Philosophy at the University of Cambridge), on philosophical concepts of the mind and the current state of the art of research at the interface of cognitive and computational neuroscience, robotics and artificial intelligence.

PROMOTION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION AT SAS

In 2013–14, the School's events programme showed a much more even split between disciplinary and interdisciplinary activity than in previous years.

Of the 2,081 events organised, just under half at 49% (1,048 events), were interdisciplinary, bringing together researchers from fields across the humanities as well as from disciplines outside, including the arts, sciences and social sciences. Well over one third of visiting fellows, 38% or 51 visiting fellows, pursued interdisciplinary research while based at SAS. Visiting researchers cited the School’s unique structure, which promotes interdisciplinary research and exchange, as being a major factor in determining their decision to come to SAS. 29% of the School’s publications and 67% of its journals were interdisciplinary in focus.

“The Human Mind Project, led by one of the world’s leading neuroscientists, is a very exciting initiative. As the first highly successful ‘Meaning of mind’ workshop showed, it has the potential to bring together those working on the mind in different ways, to create new connections between ideas and, we hope, new ideas as well. I am looking forward enormously to participating in the project’s activities.”

Professor Tim Crane, Knightbridge Professor of Philosophy, University of Cambridge

humanmind.ac.uk
Memories of the future

The Institute of Modern Languages Research (IMLR) brings scholars from a broad range of disciplines together to promote and support innovative research. In May 2014, its Centre for Cultural Memory Studies (CCM) organised a major international conference that explored the broad theme of ‘the future’ from an interdisciplinary perspective.

‘Memories of the Future’, organised in collaboration with the Chelsea College of Arts (University of the Arts London), brought together an interdisciplinary group of students, artists, scholars, architects and practitioners to interrogate the broad theme of ‘the future’ and to explore it through the humanities and social sciences. Topics included the spectacular advancements in technology, applied arts and industries; utopian and dystopian visions of the future; our current ‘after the future’ position; and the past as a repository and treasure-trove of cultural and symbolic signification, which continues to be reconstructed imaginatively by individuals and communities.

In recognition of the IMLR’s substantial contribution to doctoral research skills training, the conference included a significant research training dimension: graduate students were involved in every aspect of the conference organisation, from the organising committee to programme design, chairing and publishing. Postgraduate students at Chelsea College composed and produced a colourfully illustrated magazine, Memories of the Future, of which numerous copies were sold during and after the conference.

Only the IMLR has the remit, capacity and networks to make these opportunities available to such a broad range of language and memory scholars and practitioners, including postgraduates and early career researchers. Speakers and delegates came from Italy, Serbia, the US, Spain, Germany, Russia, Hungary, Japan and Canada, as well as the UK. The programme included two keynote speakers Professors Alberto Abruzzese (Rome La Sapienza University) and Malcolm Quinn (University of the Arts London), with individual sessions and a reception sponsored by the V&A and the Italian Cultural Institute.

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Dr Egle Kačkutė, University of Vilnius
The conference marked the launch of a mutually enriching collaboration between the IMLR and Chelsea College, now bearing fruit with a second round of workshops on the theme of ecocities, future cities and cities and reconciliation, as well as a planned submission for publication of the conference proceedings.

Feedback was enthusiastic. Professor Lourdes Otaegi Imaz (University of the Basque Country) wrote that the symposium was ‘a really interesting encounter of different academic perspectives on Utopias of the Future... I met good former acquaintances and made new friends of great interest for future collaborations. I sincerely congratulate you for your choice of communications and, of course, I thank you for including mine among them’.

“...The Institute of Modern Languages Research has been an invaluable resource during the writing of my PhD. I was lucky to have the opportunity to participate in two academic workshops, alongside an AHRC-funded film summer school in 2013, which allowed me to develop collaborative projects. In the future I hope to use resources located at the IMLR for my postdoctoral project analysing 1950s and 1960s French militant cinema via the concept of truth.”

Dr Mani Sharpe
Visiting Lecturer, Newcastle University

This three-day international interdisciplinary conference, funded by an Arts and Humanities Research Council Network Collaboration award and the Institute of Modern Languages Research, drew specialists from subjects as diverse as modern languages and clinical psychology to philosophy, law and primary health care. Fifteen panels were arranged on research topics such as alternative mothering and nonbiological and childless mothers to motherhood as resistance in a reality of war. The three keynotes were delivered by poet, Ana Luisa Amaral (Porto), philosopher Christine Battersby (Warwick) and sociologist Gail Letherby (Plymouth). Speakers, including early career researchers, represented 21 UK universities as well as universities in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, India, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Sweden, Turkey and the US. Several authors (funded by the Cassal Trust Fund), artists and performers presented their writings and art, and there were four exhibitions, one of which was shared with Senate House Library. The event led to the establishment of five non-stipendiary visiting fellows (from the US, Australia, Portugal, Canada and Lithuania) and a motherhood research network.

modernlanguages.sas.ac.uk/research-fellowships
Crossing philosophy of perception, neuroscience and aesthetics

In the past year, the Institute of Philosophy’s Centre for the Study of the Senses (CenSes), with a £1.9 million Arts and Humanities Research Council grant for ‘Rethinking the senses’, has created new avenues into the investigation of our aesthetic experiences through interdisciplinary collaboration.

Philosophers and art critics often assume our experience of art to be exclusively concerned with one sensory modality, such as vision or audition. Yet, as we wander around an exhibition, or sit in a concert hall, we cannot switch off our other senses and they are always at work to modulate the conscious experiences we have of given art works. How do other sensory modalities and context, including temperature, odour, lighting or bodily posture affect our engagement with and ability to evaluate works of art? How is the quality of the experience, or the value individuals attach to a work shaped by our senses, or changed by altering these factors?

Questions like these led to an international conference, ‘Visual paradoxes’, honouring the British painter Patrick Hughes. The conference highlighted ways in which the context of viewing affects our visual experience of works of art. It brought together philosophers, art historians and vision scientists as well as artists, practitioners and curators.

Showing the potential for the co-creation of knowledge, a research project, led by the ‘Rethinking the senses’ grant, is now investigating aspects of the perspectival paradoxes involved in Hughes’ art through fMRI (Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging) studies, testing their hypotheses using specially designed fMRI-friendly versions of Hughes’ paintings. Leading philosophers and neuroscientists from CenSes are also working with partners in Tate Galleries to assess the factors that affect the viewer’s quality of experience.

MUSIC, MIND AND CULTURE

In consultation with its neighbouring Institute of Musical Research, the Institute of Philosophy launched in April 2014 a pioneering network called ‘Music, mind and culture’, together with the universities of New York and Columbia, to bring together philosophers, scientists and musicologists. The network and its digital resource outputs will look at ways in which our experience of music is shaped by our senses and cultural practices.
Migrants at sea

The Refugee Law Initiative’s international conference on the topical issue of ‘boat refugees’ and ‘migrants at sea’ aimed to comprehensively address the contemporary phenomenon of ‘boat migration’.

Identified as a key challenge by the UN’s refugee agency, boat migration has often been in the news as thousands of migrants and refugees cross the Mediterranean in exceptionally vulnerable conditions while key European entry points claim a lack of resources to process and protect them.

This two-day event in June 2014 – organised in collaboration with the Department of Law at Queen Mary University of London and supported by the University Association for Contemporary European Studies and the University of Athens – explored all aspects of the tensions between security concerns and humanitarian obligations of boat migration. In addition to identifying the successes and failures of current policy responses to the challenge of migrants at sea, the conference concluded with an exploration of outstanding issues not yet resolved, and future problems which could emerge.

By bringing together academic researchers and speakers from organisations such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, FRONTEX (the European Union Agency for border control) and the International Maritime Organisation – which produce and shape policy as well as dealing with the challenges of migrants at sea on the ground – the conference will have a lasting legacy, triggering an inter-regional, multidisciplinary dialogue and bridging gaps in knowledge and policy responses. Participants at the conference praised its balanced and comprehensive range of speakers and coverage of issues related to the topic of migrants at sea, and particularly welcomed the presentations by early career researchers who presented new perspectives not (yet) commonly disseminated in the literature, making the conference and its role in disseminating this research even more valuable to the scholarly community.

In order to ensure that the impact of the research disseminated at the conference is sustained, an edited volume based on the papers presented at the conference and ensuing discussions is currently being prepared, to be published under Brill’s International Refugee Law Series.

COLLABORATIVE EVENTS AT SAS

In 2013–14, almost a third (31% or 650) of all events organised were collaborative in nature. Of these collaborations, nearly half (49%) were with other HEIs and more than a third (39%) were with organisations outside of higher education, including those in the public and third sectors.
A stepping stone for early career researchers

The Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) has been delighted to welcome a number of outstanding early career scholars exploring a range of topics within Latin American studies as part of its stipendiary fellowship scheme. It sees this as a vital contribution to ensure the long-term sustainability of teaching and research in the subject.

The ILAS stipendiary fellowship scheme, which has run for the past two years, is designed to support early career scholars who are seeking to pursue innovative, interdisciplinary research and to engage in activities to promote research in Latin American and Caribbean studies nationally and internationally. ILAS is a uniquely ideal space for those wishing to engage in research and activities of this kind owing to the Institute’s broad, area-studies approach to the subject, which is not constrained by disciplinary or departmental boundaries. Stipendiary fellows are also able to benefit from the events, research training and networking opportunities offered by the School as a whole, enabling them to develop the expertise and contacts necessary to develop an academic career.

The fellowship scheme has been recognised by the national research community as being an invaluable stepping stone to help nurture and develop researchers at the start of their career. By providing them with time, resources and support to enable scholars to produce publications, convene events and develop networks, the next generation of Latin American studies academics are able to foster skills to take them forward. All four 2013–14 stipendiary fellows have gone on to secure posts in UK universities.

“As a stipendiary fellow at ILAS, I had a unique opportunity to devote eight months to developing my own work in a free and stimulating research environment. At the heart of London’s research communities and networks, the Institute provided me and my colleagues with full support for proposing and implementing various kinds of research activities including workshops, collaborative funding applications and outreach initiatives (e.g. exhibitions and the setting up of a digital photographic archive on Latin American landscapes). Besides pursuing my own research and publication plans, the most rewarding aspect of the fellowship has been the freedom to collaborate and create interdisciplinary networks which have led to ongoing collaborative activities and which have shaped and enriched my own research in ways that I would have not otherwise envisaged.”

Dr Michela Coletta, Department of History, University of Warwick
I worked in the Senate House library ... researching its comprehensive and impressively pristine collections of 20th-century Cuban journals. This material is part of my second book project, *Internationalist Cuba: photography and cultural outreach*. I submitted one essay for this project, examining the use of photographs in Havana’s el Museo de la Revolución, to the forthcoming book *Between art and information* from Bloomsbury, a press located near Senate House.”

Dr Kris Juncker, Department of Art History, University of Warwick

“The stipendiary fellowship at ILAS gave me the time I needed to produce several peer-reviewed articles, organise a successful workshop and prepare applications for post-doctoral research. It is an excellent opportunity to take that next step on from doctoral research, providing ample resources to establish a profile as a Latin Americanist researcher.”

Dr Matt Wilde, Department of Anthropology, LSE

**VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS HOSTED BY SAS**

In 2013–14, the School hosted 134 visiting research fellows during the year, who stayed on average 5.6 months. Of these, the majority (70%) came from outside the UK and almost half (46%) were early career researchers.

“The stipendiary fellowship provided me with the opportunity to carry out collaborative research and expand my research interests into new areas. It also allowed me to develop a number of articles and to attend conferences both here in the UK and abroad. It was a pleasure to be a stipendiary fellow at the Institute and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I look forward to continuing my collaborative work in future as an Associate Fellow.”

Dr Malayna Raftopoulos, Institute of Latin American Studies
The ‘German in the world’ project asks: ‘What relevance and resonance do German studies have in different countries and regions of the world?’ and ‘How does German as an academic discipline connect with the “world out there”, across disciplines and with partners and audiences outside academia?’ These questions directly address ongoing concerns about modern languages capability and provision in the UK, as expressed by the UK government, the British Academy and other stakeholders. The symposium offered solutions which can feed into government and educational policy.

The research questions were initially raised at the British Universities’ Heads of German meeting (HoGMeet) hosted annually at the IMLR. The aim was to assess the situation of the German language in the UK and globally, and to devise directions for future development of the subject based on interdisciplinary engagement. The symposium brought together leading Germanists from the UK, Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, South Africa, India, Japan and the US, academics from other disciplines, and representatives from UK creative industries and cultural institutions including the BBC, Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, the German Embassy, the German Academic Exchange Service, the Austrian Cultural Forum and the University Council for Modern Languages. The IMLR part-funded the symposium through its Trust Funds and was instrumental in making these cross-sector links by bringing together such a wide range of speakers. The event engendered new connections and networking possibilities and an upbeat, positive outlook for the future of German.

According to James Hodkinson (University of Warwick), the symposium sounded a call to ‘rethink the subject, connect with other disciplines and widen its boundaries’. He concluded, ‘On the basis of this wide-ranging and thought-provoking symposium it seems that we may be better equipped to do this than we might think… the future does not look quite so bleak after all. Just different.’

The spin-offs from this symposium include a seminar series, ‘German in the world’, at King’s College London, a forthcoming edited volume, a sub-project on the multi-institutional application to the Arts and Humanities Research Council Open World Research Initiative, led by the universities of Warwick and Bristol, and panels at forthcoming meetings of the Association for German Studies.

In June 2014, the Institute of Modern Languages Research (IMLR) hosted and part-funded a one-day symposium within a larger collaborative research project entitled ‘German in the world’ (with King’s College London and Queen Mary University of London). Its aim was to determine the current status of the German language in the UK and globally, and to look at its future development as a subject.
Airplane noise and the taste of umami

Charles Spence, Charles Michel and Barry Smith (2014)

Flavour 2014, 3:2

Have you ever noticed how many people ask for a Bloody Mary or tomato juice from the airplane drinks trolley? The air stewards have and will tell you that such people rarely order these drinks at any other time. Could it be that umami-rich tomato provides one of the only basic tastes relatively unaffected by the loud background noise one is exposed to on a flight? That is the research suggestion or hypothesis of this opinion piece.

Should such a claim be validated by future research, the potential impact on airline catering could be huge.

The slave trading accounts of Manoel Batista Peres, 1613–1619: double-entry bookkeeping in cloth money

Linda A Newson (2013)

Accounting History 18(3): 343-365

This study examines the private accounts of the Portuguese New Christian trader, Manoel Batista Peres. Found in the Archivo General de la Nación in Lima, Peru, the accounts were associated with slave trading on the Upper Guinea Coast in the early 17th century. They take the double-entry format but, in the absence of a metallic currency, were kept in cloth money. Combining evidence from the accounts with the context in which Peres conducted his business, the study explores how this accounting system could be adapted to a non-monetised economy, and contributes to the debate over the relationship between double-entry bookkeeping and the rise of capitalism.

Jean-Baptiste Lamarck and the Place of Irritability in the History of Life and Death', by Guido Giglioni, in Vitalism and the Scientific Image in Post-Enlightenment Life Science, 1800–2010

Sebastian Normandin and Charles T Wolfe (eds.) (2013)

Vitalism is understood as impacting the history of the life sciences, medicine and philosophy. This volume’s contributions portray its history from the end of the Enlightenment to the modern day, suggesting some reassessment of what it means both historically and conceptually.
Selection of publications produced in 2013–14

**Institute of Classical Studies**

**Persuasive Language in Cicero’s Pro Milone: a close reading and commentary**
Lynn S. Fotheringham (ed.) (2013)
ISBN: 9781905670482

This innovative approach to Cicero’s persuasive language analyses the style and structure of one of his important speeches in more detail than has ever been done before.

**Institute of Commonwealth Studies**

**A world you do not know: settler societies, indigenous peoples and the attack on cultural diversity**
Colin Samson (2013)
ISBN: 9780957521001

This book explores the wilful ignorance demonstrated by North America’s settlers in establishing their societies on lands already occupied by indigenous nations. Using the Innu of Labrador-Quebec as one powerful contemporary example, Colin Samson shows how the processes of displacement and assimilation today resemble those of the 19th century as the state and corporations scramble for Innu lands. While nation building, capitalism and industrialisation are shown to have undermined indigenous peoples’ wellbeing, the values that guide societies like the Innu are very much alive. The book ends by showcasing how ideas and land-based activities of indigenous groups in Canada and the US are being maintained and recast as ways to address the attack on cultural diversity and move forward to more positive futures.

**Institute of English Studies**

**Blackburn’s ‘Worthy Citizen’: The Philanthropic Legacy of R.E. Hart**
Cynthia Johnston & Sarah J. Biggs (2013)
ISBN: 9780992725709

The exceptionally fine colour images in this catalogue are selections from the R.E. Hart Collection held by the Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery. Seven medieval manuscripts and three incunables from the Collection were exhibited at Senate House Library in November of 2013.

**Yeats’s Mask – Yeats Annual No. 19**
Margaret Mills Harper & Warwick Gould (eds.) (2013)
ISBN: 9781783740178

This volume is a special issue in the renowned research-level series. Fashionable in the age of Wilde, the Mask changes shape until it emerges as *Mask* in the system of *A Vision*. Tracing the concept through Yeats’s plays and those poems written as ‘texts for exposition’ of his occult thought which flowers in *A Vision* itself, the volume also spotlights ‘The Mask before The Mask’, and numerous plays including *Cathleen Ni Houlihan*, *The King’s Threshold*, *Calvary*, *The Words upon the Window-pane*, *A Full Moon in March* and *The Death of Cuchulain*. 
Institute of Historical Research

The Victoria History of Herefordshire: Eastnor
Janet Cooper, David Whitehead & Sylvia Pinches (2013)
ISBN: 9781905165964

Eastnor is the first parish history to be produced by the Trust for the Victoria County History of Herefordshire. In its expanded treatment of the parish history, emphasising the economy and society of the parish as well as landownership and religious life, Eastnor is modelled on the first individual VCH parish history to be published, that of Mapledurwell, Hampshire, in 2012.

Human Rights Consortium

In Protest: 150 Poems for Human Rights
ISBN: 9780957221032

In Protest is an anthology of new poetry exploring human rights and social justice themes. This collection, a collaboration between the Human Rights Consortium and the Keats House Poets, brings together 150 poems from over 16 countries. The poems provide a rare insight into experiences of oppression, discrimination, and dispossession – and yet they also offer strong messages of hope and solidarity.

Institute of Latin American Studies

Democracy in Mexico: attitudes and perceptions of citizens at national and local level
Salvador Martí i Puig, Reynaldo Yunuen Ortega Ortiz, Mª Fernanda Somuano Ventura & Claire Wright (eds.) (2014)
ISBN: 9781908857064

The book offers an important contribution to one of the more complex and multifaceted political processes of recent decades in Latin America: Mexico’s democratisation at the national and subnational levels.

Institute of Modern Languages Research

Phantom Images
Catherine Smale (2013)
ISBN: 9781781880265

Ghosts have made an unexpected reappearance in German literature since 1989. Focusing on two major authors from the former GDR, Christa Wolf and Irina Liebmann, Smale examines the ways in which their work adopts notions of haunting in its creative engagement with the double legacy of Socialism and National Socialism.

The Warburg Institute

Communicating Observations in Early Modern Letters (1500–1675)
Dirk van Miert (ed.) (2013)
ISBN: 9781908590466

The case studies in this volume juxtapose instances of knowledge exchange across a variety of fields usually studied in isolation: anthropology, medicine, botany, epigraphy, astronomy, geography, philosophy and chronology.

While letters were the prime medium for exchanging information, they must be studied in relation to notebooks, drafts, attachments and printed works in order to appreciate fully how observations were communicated within the learned networks of Europe during the 16th and 17th centuries.

To order any of these publications visit sas.ac.uk/publications_as.html
### Financial summary

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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>15,767,053</td>
<td>15,103,360</td>
<td>17,371,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
<td>6,332,175</td>
<td>5,715,704</td>
<td>7,289,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library services</td>
<td>3,860,419</td>
<td>3,862,405</td>
<td>1,229,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating expenses 4</td>
<td>5,342,771</td>
<td>5,569,801</td>
<td>996,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>278,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic expenditure</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2,514,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration expenditure</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>1,116,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal charges (e.g. space, Finance, HR, IT)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>4,130,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>15,535,366</td>
<td>15,147,909</td>
<td>17,554,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance before transfers to/from reserves</td>
<td>231,687</td>
<td>-44,549</td>
<td>-183,080</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

1. Figures for 2013–14 include income and expenditure for the libraries of the Institutes of Advanced Legal Studies and Historical Research and the Warburg Institute.
2. ‘Funding council grants’ includes allocations made to Libraries.
3. ‘University of London contribution’ includes strategic rental allocation and Strategic Development Fund. For 2011–12 and 2012–13 this contribution included in ‘Other operating income’ above.
4. For 2011–12 and 2012–13, ‘Other operating expenses’ includes Professional fees, Academic expenditure, Administration expenditure and Internal charges.
**Staff and fellows**

- Headcount of School staff: 243
- Number of visiting research fellows: 134
  (average stay at School: 5.6 months)
- Total number of research fellows and associates: 743

**Digital resources and information platforms provided**

- Number of digital resources and information platforms: 212
- Number of visits made to digital resources and information platforms: 26.4 million
- Number of page views requested: 85.2 million
- Number of unique users: 11.4 million

**Research networks and collaborations**

- Number of networks led or administered by the School: 305
- Number of networks of which the School holds membership: 687
- Number of participants in networks led or administered by the School: 18,644

**Conferences, seminars and workshops held**

- Number of research dissemination events, including library events: 2081
- Number of speakers and participants: (across UK: 56,024; rest of world: 7,931) 63,955
- Number of podcast views and downloads: 281,174

**Publications produced**

- Number of print and online publications produced by the School and its staff: 397
- Number of print and digital journals published, many of which are open access: 15
- Number of e-journal page views requested: 1.5 million

**Research training provided**

- Number of research training events: 224
- Number of hours: 1,709
- Number of participants: (across the UK: 5,088; rest of world: 427) 5,515

**Library**

- Number of registered readers: (across the UK: 14,501; rest of world: 3,820) 18,321
- Number of visits: 202,891
- Number of volumes in stock: 945,837
- Number of acquisitions of volumes: 22,914
Last word

We in the School of Advanced Study believe passionately in the importance of research in the humanities, broadly defined.

We work to support, facilitate and promote excellent humanities research wherever it is found.

Do please tell us what we are doing right but, more importantly, let us know what we might do differently!

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