INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

REVIEW OF THE YEAR
2013/14
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The following sections reflect the six strategic priorities set out in the Academy’s Strategic Framework 2013–2018:

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Taking a lead in representing the humanities and social sciences, promoting their interests and vigorously upholding their value.

09 ADVANCING RESEARCH
Providing distinctive and complementary funding opportunities for outstanding people and innovative research.

13 FOSTERING EXCELLENCE
Strengthening, extending and diversifying ways of recognising and celebrating high achievement in the humanities and social sciences.

15 STRENGTHENING POLICYMAKING
Providing independent contributions to public policy development, enhancing the policymaking process.

17 ENGAGING WITH THE PUBLIC
Stimulating public interest in and understanding of the humanities and social sciences, and contributing to public debate.

19 PROMOTING INTERNATIONALISM
Promoting UK research in international arenas, fostering a global approach across UK research and providing leadership in developing global research links and expertise.

22 ABOUT THE ACADEMY
Welcome to the British Academy’s first Review of the Year. Each year we plan to present an overview of the highlights of the past year, showing how the Academy works to support outstanding humanities and social science research, and acts as a champion for its disciplines – from psychology to the history of art and music, and from economics to archaeology. It complements the more detailed Annual Report, containing full financial accounts, which is published online.

The Academy invested some £29m during the financial year 2013/14 to support excellent and innovative research across the humanities and social sciences, nationally and internationally, including research fellowships for early and mid-career scholars, and a wide-ranging programme of Small Research Grants in partnership with the Leverhulme Trust and others. Across the board these funding schemes attracted increased demand.

The Academy increasingly works in partnership with the UK’s other national academies to emphasise the value of the country’s world-class research base. As the national voice of the humanities and social sciences, it drew attention to the increasingly serious funding needs of postgraduate students, led major initiatives to help ensure the UK develops sustainable ‘open access’ publication policies and promoted the importance of studying foreign languages and strengthening researchers’ quantitative skills. Public policy reports covered the referendum on Scottish independence (including perspectives from Wales), health inequalities, underwater cultural heritage, and the disposal of radioactive waste.

In February the Academy launched a major multimedia project, Prospiring Wisely, setting out the many ways in which the humanities and social sciences contribute to our social, cultural and economic well-being, individually and collectively. The project included video interviews with a range of Academy Fellows (accessible on our website) which illustrate how research and expertise in their disciplines feed into our national life.

One of the duties of an Academy based on excellence is to show its subjects ‘at work’ tackling major issues of the day. A new flagship series of ‘British Academy Debates’ was launched this year, in London, Sheffield and Edinburgh, together with backup digital content. In this first series, leading academics and public figures discussed some of the key challenges – and opportunities – posed by a steadily ageing population, with substantial audiences and media attention. These Debates put the Academy’s full range of disciplines to work. Alongside them, our public programme of lectures, talks and conferences continued to grow.

The humanities and social sciences account for half of active research staff in UK universities. They are studied by a million undergraduates – and by a quarter of a million international students (some 60% of the total), who make important contributions to the future of our international relationships and our economy. The Academy puts excellence in research and scholarship to work, and fosters excellence for the future. It will continue to build its links across the UK with the wider academic community, and a strategic priority is to strengthen support for early career scholars, building on the success of our postdoctoral fellowship scheme.

International leadership is a further vital part of the Academy’s work. This year’s activities included publishing a report on the value of the UK’s ‘soft power’ assets, strengthening links with emerging powers, including China and India, giving advice on the EU’s role in funding research, and supporting the Academy’s unique network of research institutes overseas. A new international prize in transcultural understanding extended the Academy’s portfolio of prizes and medals, which recognise both scholarly achievement and non-scholarly contributions to the humanities and social sciences. Many of these awards are made possible by the generosity of donors.

The Academy welcomes partners who share its aim of supporting excellence in the humanities and social sciences. Thanks are due to our many supporters, notably the Leverhulme Trust and the Wolfson Foundation. We are very grateful to the elected Officers, Council, Committee members and Fellows for their pro bono work in support of the Academy over the past year – and last but certainly not least to our dedicated staff.

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS STERN
KT, FBA, FRS
(LORD STERN OF BRENTFORD)
PRESIDENT

DR ROBIN JACKSON CB
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
AND SECRETARY

JULY 2014
Over the past three years the Academy’s financial position has strengthened considerably. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) again provided the majority of the Academy’s income (85% this year) through its £27m grant, but there were welcome increases in grants from trusts, foundations and other bodies, from publications and investment income, and from the Academy’s wholly owned subsidiary, Clio Enterprises, which produced gross trading income of £2.2m. Overall, levels of activity have expanded, despite the tough economic climate.

This Review covers the financial year April 2013 to March 2014.

For more detailed information visit our Annual Report and accounts online at www.britishacademy.ac.uk/annualreport
Figures show a continuing decline in the take up of modern foreign languages, with the numbers of entrants to full-time degrees falling by 22% between 2010/11 and 2012/13, and latest UCAS data suggesting this decline is continuing in 2013/14.

New policy reports published by the Academy highlighted two significant issues: how deficits in language skills undermine the UK’s security and its capacity for global influence, and the importance of language skills to UK commerce (see page 16).

**OPEN ACCESS**

The Academy has provided leadership to the humanities and social science communities, by helping to articulate ways in which policy for open access publishing should best be developed. In July 2013, the Academy launched a series of essays, *Debating Open Access* – analysing the challenges and opportunities which open access poses for humanities and social science disciplines.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) subsequently commissioned the Academy to carry out detailed research into aspects of open access, including the effect that different academic journal embargo periods will have on library acquisition policies, and the degree to which different disciplines are involved in non-UK publishing. The report, *Open Access Journals in Humanities and Social Science*, published in April 2014, has been widely noticed around the world. It provides important new evidence and insights into these issues, and has already informed HEFCE’s consultation on how open access will be implemented in the next Research Excellence Framework (likely to be in 2020).

**PROSPERING WISELY**

The Academy launched a multimedia project, *Prospering Wisely*, in February, which argued that the notion of ‘prosperity’ extends well beyond its purely financial meaning, and illustrated some of the many ways in which the humanities and social sciences actively contribute to well-being, to a healthy, open democracy and to fuelling growth and innovation.

Combining a booklet, a series of video interviews, a multimedia website and a special edition of the *British Academy Review*, it shows the Academy’s disciplines ‘at work’, and the role that high level expertise plays in fostering a flourishing society and tackling its multiple challenges. The project was launched with a reception at the House of Lords followed by an evening public panel discussion chaired by Melvyn Bragg.

**CHAMPIONING THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

As the UK’s national champion of the humanities and social sciences the British Academy takes the lead in promoting their interests and making the case for their role and value in our individual, community and national lives.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE LEARNING**

The Academy has been especially active in promoting the study of languages. In 2013 a two-year partnership was launched with *The Guardian*, including a Public Language Champion Award (won by Arsène Wenger, Arsenal FC’s manager), a month-long Language Festival, and the Schools Language Awards, hosted this year by the actor Larry Lamb.

**POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS**

Following its position statement *Postgraduate Funding: The Neglected Dimension*, the Academy has continued to highlight the importance of improving the funding of postgraduate study. This has included discussions with HEFCE, Research Councils and other funders and stakeholders to investigate sustainable funding solutions. The Academy also commissioned the National Union of Students to undertake a large scale analysis of students’ attitudes to undergraduate debt and its impact on postgraduate study intentions, to address current evidence gaps on the impact of the changes to undergraduate funding in England, and assist in developing a holistic national funding strategy for postgraduates.

**60%**

Percentage of all UK postgraduates working in humanities and social science disciplines.
PATHWAYS FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS
In partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Academy has commissioned a study to explore the pathways that exist for early career researchers in the years immediately following completion of their doctorates. This report will provide important evidence on the barriers they face in seeking to establish academic careers, and help the Academy take forward its plans to develop greater support for early career researchers.

WORKING TOGETHER
The Academy works closely with the other national academies (the Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Academy of Medical Sciences) to make the case for the importance of academic research to growth and innovation. This included a joint publication, *Fueling Prosperity*, which recommended a long-term strategy for research and innovation, to allow the UK to keep pace with its international competitors and fully exploit the social, cultural and economic benefits of its world renowned research base. All four academies are now members of a Ministerial Advisory Group that will inform the development of the Government’s forthcoming science and innovation strategy.

The Academy invested over £29m in 2013/14 in support of humanities and social science research. The largest share of this funding was allocated to outstanding early and mid-career scholars and through grants to support a wide variety of research projects and investigations across all our disciplines.

EARLY CAREER
In 2013/14 the Academy awarded a record number of 50 new Postdoctoral Fellowships, which offer early career scholars from a wide range of UK universities an invaluable three years of support to further their research, free from teaching and administrative duties. Networking and training opportunities are also provided.

Their research spans a very broad range of topics across the humanities and social sciences – from Dr Laure de Preux (Imperial College London) evaluating the effects of weather variation on people’s health in the UK to Dr Evrim Altintas (University of Oxford) examining the extent to which the daily activities and social interactions of young people affect adult outcomes such as employment and family formation. Dr Jos Smith (University of Exeter) is exploring the way relationships between local, regional and national forms of culture have changed in light of the conservation movement and the environmental crisis in Britain since the 1970s.

50 NEW POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED IN 2013/14

46 NEW MID-CAREER FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED IN 2013/14
The Academy’s academic publications play an important role in communicating new insights from humanities and social science research. Thirty-two new titles were published in the past year, the majority through a longstanding partnership with Oxford University Press. They included the conclusion of one of the Academy’s oldest publishing endeavours, The Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources, and the first volume of the new online open access Journal of the British Academy, which seeks to publish a conspectus of the state of scholarship across the Academy’s disciplinary interests, drawn from the Academy’s own lecture programme. An article posted to the Journal in February 2014, ‘Between art and science: Music as performance’, demonstrated the advantages of its online format by including audio clips of music.

An independent evaluation of the scheme in 2013 found that the awards make a significant difference to the career development of the Postdoctoral Fellows, through the opportunity they provide to pursue new lines of research, the security to take risks and explore innovative topics and approaches, and through the prestige of holding an Academy research fellowship.

Forty-six new awards were made under the Academy’s Mid-Career Fellowships programme, which enables established scholars to dedicate up to 12 months to a major piece of research. These include Dr Santanu Das (King’s College London) examining archival, historical and literary material on the First World War, in order to analyse the war’s colonial and multiracial dimensions. Other research topics ranged from the sound of Ancient Greek music (Dr Armand D’Angour, University of Oxford) to the relationships between digital communication technologies and new forms of protest movements (Dr Anastasia Kavada, University of Westminster).

In a timely project on the risk management implications of extreme weather events last year, which involved applying a novel methodology to meteorological data, Professor Walter Distaso (Imperial College London) found strong evidence that weather-related events tend to cluster in space and time. His findings have since been used by government scientists in the Departments of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

Additionally, the Leverhulme Trust continues to support the award of seven Senior Research Fellowships each year, and the Wolfson Foundation provides four British Academy/Wolfson Research Professorships. Both schemes offer valuable extended research leave to outstanding established academics.

Small Research Grants
In 2013/14, 306 awards were made under the Academy’s Small Research Grants scheme, which offers awards of up to £10,000 to researchers at all stages of their career. Once again the Leverhulme Trust gave major support to the scheme, with other support coming from The Sir John Cass’s Foundation, the Modern Humanities Research Association and numerous Fellows and former grant recipients.

Many award-holders investigate subjects of topical concern. Dr Timothy Sinclair (University of Warwick) is researching ‘US Credit Rating Agencies, Financial Innovation and Crisis’, while Professor Margaret MacMillan (University of Oxford) is researching ‘Central and Eastern Europe in World Politics between the World Wars’.

Several recipients have used their findings to help shape government thinking. In his research on trade issues, Dr Holger Breinlich (University of Essex) is identifying barriers that hinder businesses from exporting, providing information useful for UK and international export promotion agencies, and for policymakers seeking to understand the sources of export performance.
3.2
PUBLISHED OUTPUTS BY RECIPIENTS
OF SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS

Professor Matthew Johnson (now Northwestern University) and Dr Sara Perry (now University of York) showcased the findings of their preliminary investigation into the archives of drawings and correspondence by the artist Alan Sorrell (1904–1974) in an exhibition at the Sir John Soane Museum, London. Their project has contributed to an upsurge of interest in the work of Sorrell and his Neo-Romantic contemporaries.

Dr Sally Ann Ashton (University of Cambridge) presented her research on ‘The Presentation and Perceptions of Nubian Cultural Heritage’ to over 200 participants in education programmes in HM Prisons as part of a museum outreach project, helping to contribute to a deeper understanding of ethnic identities.

In 2014 the Academy conducted a survey of former grant recipients on the longer term outputs and outcomes of their research, which can often emerge several years after an award. Findings show significant productivity, with award-holders producing an average of 3.2 published outputs per grant.

And while Small Research Grants can only be offered up to £10,000, the survey showed that many recipients were able to use the grant to secure additional funding and raise the total value of their research support by up to 20 times.

The Academy’s mission is ‘to inspire, recognise and support high achievement in the humanities and social sciences’ and it constantly seeks to strengthen and diversify ways of recognising and celebrating excellence.

THE FELLOWSHIP
Election to the Fellowship of the British Academy is a mark of outstanding research excellence afforded to relatively small numbers of scholars.

In July 2013, following a rigorous process of review and independent assessment, 42 candidates were elected as Academy Fellows, drawn from some 15,000 active research staff in the humanities and social sciences. The total UK Fellowship is now over 900.

A further 15 scholars resident overseas were elected as Corresponding Fellows, together with two new Honorary Fellows: Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws and Robert Silvers.

Eighteen Academy Sections span the academic disciplines across the humanities and social sciences and are now augmented by three ‘ginger groups’, set up last year to recognise the importance of the fields of management and business studies; education; and cultural, communications, media and performance studies.

ACADEMY RESEARCH PROJECTS
Kitemarking and modest financial support is offered to 50 long-term fundamental research undertakings, designated as British Academy Research Projects. During 2013, these projects published 39 new volumes or editions, and 60 articles or book chapters and continued to increase their outreach to wider audiences through websites and other content.

The Commodity Histories website (www.commodityhistories.org) launched in September 2013, was praised for its visual features, original content, ease of navigation and compactness.

The IRIS lab (Instruments for Research into Second-Language Learning) has an online database (at www.iris-database.org) and 23 leading journals have encouraged their authors to upload their data collection instruments to it.

The research project ‘Childhoods and Play’ produced a major new study, Changing Play: Play, Media and Commercial Culture from the 1950s to the Present Day.
The Academy’s Centenary Research Project, ‘Lucy to Language’, on the evolution of the social brain, had some welcome exposure during the year when Professor Robin Dunbar’s research on friendships was explicitly used by Guinness in a 2013 TV advertising campaign.

Academy kitemarking enables these research projects to generate considerable support from a range of other funders. For every £1 invested by the Academy in this programme (£200,000 pa), more than £30 is generated from non-governmental, often international sources – currently totalling more than £6m.

The past year also saw the first awards of the British Academy Medals, designed to recognise landmark academic achievements in any field of the humanities or social sciences. They were won by Professor David Abulafia for his ‘human history of the Mediterranean’, *The Great Sea*; by Sir Noel Malcolm for his comprehensive new volumes of *Thomas Hobbes’s Leviathan*; and jointly by Professor Tim Shallice and Dr Richard Cooper for their groundbreaking psychology study, *The Organisation of Mind*.

Complementing them are the President’s Medals, designed to recognise ‘signal service’ to the cause of the humanities and social sciences beyond the purely academic. Last year awards were made to Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty; Baroness (Jean) Cousins of Whitehall Park, House of Lords; Sir Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times Literary Supplement*; and Lord (Rowan) Williams of Oystermouth, the former Archbishop of Canterbury.

Over recent years the Academy has steadily broadened its public policy work – fostering collaboration between leading academics and policymakers, and showcasing the relevance of humanities and social science research in addressing some of the toughest policy challenges facing the UK.

**Strengthening Policymaking**

The past year also saw the first awards of the new Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize for Transcultural Understanding. This £25,000 prize was won by author Karen Armstrong (pictured) for her contribution to understanding the elements of commonality in different cultures and religions.

**Enlightening the Constitutional Debate**

During 2013 and 2014 the Academy held a series of joint events with the Royal Society of Edinburgh to look into issues that will affect Scotland and the UK, ahead of the independence referendum. They examined in turn specific areas of policy, such as defence, education, tax and spending and relations with the European Union, and how the various constitutional options will affect the ways they are dealt with in future.

The two organisations rounded off the series with the publication in April of a report, *Enlightening the Constitutional Debate*, which summarised the discussions in the series.

**Underwater Cultural Heritage**

In March the Academy and the Honor Frost Foundation called on the Government to do more to protect the UK’s rich maritime legacy by ratifying the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. A group of archaeologists and underwater heritage experts warned that without ratification the UK is largely incapable of offering protection to the significant number of UK wrecks that lie beyond our own waters.

**Health Inequalities**

In January the Academy published a collection of views on practical ways of tackling health inequalities, designed to help local policymakers improve the health of their communities. “If you could do one thing…” Nine local actions to reduce health inequalities has had a positive reception from the public health community and local authorities, and has been presented and discussed at conferences organised by Public Health England, the Local Government Association, NHS Employers and the NHS Confederation.
The consequences of being lost in translation in international affairs are all too often very real and can be tragic...the language problem is not just a problem for the Government – it needs to be tackled all the way from schools and universities across to business too.

Rt Hon Sir Richard Ottaway MP
Chair, House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee

There have been significant developments in the Academy’s programme of events and public outreach this year, which have enhanced our ability to communicate with different and wider audiences.

PUBLIC EVENTS
The Academy’s programme of public lectures, talks and discussions continued to grow, with an increasing number of partnerships. More than 5,700 people attended a total of 51 public events, and digital records of these (audio and visual) help to extend their reach to thousands more.

Lecture topics ranged from Professor Toril Moi on Simone de Beauvoir and Dame Jinty Nelson on ‘Charlemagne and Europe’, to Lord Renfrew on ‘The Sanctuary at Keros’ and James Heckman on ‘The Economics of Inequality and Human Development’.

Other highlights included Monty Python’s Terry Jones talking about the Medieval world, a discussion of the changes in the modern forms of cinema and film, and the third British Academy Literature Week in May 2013. Held in partnership with the University of London’s Institute of English Studies with support from the Royal Society of Literature and The Times Literary Supplement, the week included an 80th birthday tribute to the poet Anne Stevenson and further events at Shakespeare’s Globe, Senate House and the Irish Embassy.

The Academy also hosted a popular exhibition of paper sculptures in its foyer areas by artist Justin Rowe.

Languages and Quantitative Skills
The Academy’s Languages and Quantitative Skills Programme, established in 2011, seeks to address skills shortages in these two important areas. During 2013/14 the Academy increased its focus on advocacy (see page 6) and on policy issues and capacity building.

A report, Lost for Words, presented evidence on how deficits in foreign language skills within government threaten the UK’s security and its capacity for global influence. It was launched at the House of Lords in November 2013. Speaking at the launch, the Rt Hon Sir Richard Ottaway MP, Chair of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee, said: ‘The language problem is not just a problem for the Government – it needs to be tackled all the way from schools and universities across to business too.’

In September the Academy launched a project investigating the extent and nature of language needs in the labour market and the implications for language education from school to higher education.

‘Born Global: Rethinking Language Policy for 21st Century Britain’ will elicit new evidence, analysis and leadership to inform the curriculum and assessment debate in modern languages.

If the UK is to retain its status as a world leader in research and higher education, graduates in all disciplines will increasingly need the means to understand and analyse data. To help provide a framework and long-term plan of coordinated action to address the UK’s deficit in quantitative skills, a high-level strategy group, convened by the Academy, is developing a national strategy to reinforce existing initiatives, increase the evidence base, and identify opportunities to invest in the ‘supply chain’.

The Academy is also offering new Skills Acquisition Awards, enabling early career researchers to spend time with a mentor in a research group specialising in quantitative methods, in order to develop and enhance their skills. Fifteen awards were made to applicants based at 13 different institutions across the UK in the first year of the scheme.

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The Academy hosted a popular exhibition of paper sculptures, crafted from old books by artist Justin Rowe during Literature Week in May 2013.
MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS
The Academy’s promotion of the humanities and social sciences benefited from a stronger media profile. Over 80 stories in the media resulted in more than 1,000 articles, interviews and news stories in the past year, reaching a potential audience of several million people.


Media partnerships increased over the year, including a joint languages campaign with The Guardian. The Times Literary Supplement was media partner for Literature Week 2013 and Prospect magazine for the first series of The British Academy Debates.

The Academy’s work increasingly features digital communications, such as videos and audio podcasts accessible through the website, e-bulletins and newsletters and rapidly growing use of social media.

The website had 549,000 visitors during 2013/14, with a variety of new developments offering an improved user experience, including a growing range of audio podcasts and videos.

Social media continued to project the Academy’s online ‘voice’, with over 7,000 Twitter followers, and with re-tweets showing that Academy communications potentially reached hundreds of thousands of other Twitter accounts across the world last year.

THE BRITISH ACADEMY DEBATES
A new flagship series, The British Academy Debates, was launched in February. Its aim is to start a new national conversation around the country, showing the humanities and social sciences ‘at work’, examining and illuminating some of today’s toughest human and policy challenges.

For the first series, academic experts and commentators considered some of the problems — and opportunities — posed by the steadily ageing population. Three events were held — in London, Sheffield and Edinburgh — with Prospect magazine as a media partner, and the programme included the development of significant digital content and a summary publication.

Further series of Debates will consider issues around immigration (Autumn 2014) and well-being and public policy (early 2015).

Contemporary research is an emphatically global enterprise. The Academy attaches great importance to its international role, spanning policy work, fellowships, research partnerships and exchanges, and the support of British research institutes based overseas.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY
In October 2013 a two-day conference, ‘Emerging Powers Going Global’, launched a new area of international policy work on governance, states in transition and statebuilding.

The event brought together a diverse range of leading international and UK figures from the policymaking, academic, NGO and business worlds to analyse the global implications of the growing economic strength and political influence of emerging powers in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The EU’s role in supporting research remained an important focus, particularly in the final negotiations for Horizon 2020, its multi-billion Euro research and innovation programme for 2014–2020. The Academy engaged with the European institutions, sister academies, the federation of All European Academies (ALLEA) and the UK Government to deliver advice on the content of Horizon 2020, its funding levels and the mechanisms required firmly to ‘embed’ the humanities and social sciences.

“The span of speakers from industry, government and academia was quite remarkable, and a focus on the emerging powers as a group, rather than a sub-set of the BRICS, was a strength of the conference.

Participant in ‘Emerging Powers Going Global’ conference
There was strengthened focus on the Academy’s longstanding relations with China. In March 2014 the President led a delegation to Beijing for a joint workshop on international economic policy and governance with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences – the first in a series of collaborative activities aimed at strengthening scholarly links and promoting policy dialogue.

Last Autumn a visit from the Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences included a stimulating academic forum on ethnic conflict in an urban context. And in November a new Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences to provide joint funding for collaborative projects between UK and Chinese researchers in areas of policy relevance.

A report setting out the importance of the UK continuing to invest in ‘soft power’ was published in February. The Art of Attraction: Soft Power and the UK’s Role in the World discussed the nature and relevance of soft power, looking at the UK’s various soft power resources and its ability to mobilise them.

As part of the Academy’s commitment to the next generation of social science and humanities researchers, two writing workshops in sub-Saharan Africa were organised through the African Studies Association of the UK (ASAUK), enabling early career East African researchers to benefit from intensive ‘hands-on’ sessions with journal editors.

A second Translation and Interpreting Studies workshop took place at the Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) institute in Amman, Jordan, to provide training for researchers from across the Middle East and North Africa in the burgeoning area of translation studies.

**NEWTON FELLOWSHIPS**

The sixth round of the Newton International Fellowship Programme, run jointly with the Royal Society, made 12 awards to outstanding early career humanities and social science researchers to spend two years at a UK host institution. Since the inception of the scheme, the Academy has awarded 76 Newton Fellowships. A distinctive feature is that the scheme offers financial support for alumni to maintain their links with the UK after they return home at the end of their fellowship.

**INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Under its International Partnership and Mobility scheme, the Academy made 45 new awards – 24 one-year awards and 21 three-year awards – for partnerships with 19 countries, involving 31 different UK institutions. Four further awards were co-funded by the National Science Council of Taiwan and a further two awards by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The British School at Rome and the British School at Athens joined together for a new collaboration investigating the Adriatic, a major channel of east/west communication which has received little attention in recent scholarship. ‘Adriatic Connections’ supports original research into the art and archaeology of the Adriatic from the seventh century AD up to the Fall of Constantinople.

The British School at Athens and the British Institute at Ankara, together with the École Française d’Athènes, have also established an international network for original research by a new generation of scholars working in the field of Balkan regional studies. ‘Balkan Futures’ examines inter-regional development and cooperation in South East Europe at a time of challenge and instability, and seeks to define potential areas for future policymaking and research.
The British Academy is the UK’s expert body that supports and speaks for the humanities and social sciences. It is an independent national academy of Fellows elected for their eminence in research and publication, and was established by Royal Charter in 1902.

The Academy receives public financial support from the Science and Research budget allocated by an annual grant from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills – currently fixed at £27m. It also receives support from private sources, and draws on its own funds.

The total Fellowship comprises some 1,200 scholars and researchers, elected for life. Up to 42 new UK Fellows are elected each year from across the humanities and social sciences, following a rigorous process of scrutiny and election, plus up to 15 Corresponding Fellows (based overseas). Honorary Fellows can also be elected.

A list of new Fellows elected in July 2013 appears overleaf.

The Academy is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. It endeavours to conduct its business in accordance with the seven principles identified by the Committee on Standards in Public Life and with the Guidance on Codes of Practice for Board Members of Public Bodies, issued by the Cabinet Office (Office of Public Service).

HISTORY
The creation of a British Academy ‘for the Promotion of Historical, Philosophical and Philological Studies’ was first proposed in 1899 in order that Britain could be represented at a meeting of European and American academies. The organisation, which then became known simply as the British Academy, received its Royal Charter from King Edward VII in 1902.

Since then, many of Britain’s most distinguished scholars in the humanities and social sciences have been involved in the life of the Academy. The roll call of past Fellows includes many of the greatest British names of the twentieth century, such as the influential economists John Maynard Keynes, Friedrich Hayek and William Beveridge; the eminent thinkers Karl Popper and Isaiah Berlin; A J P Taylor, Kenneth Clark and Mortimer Wheeler, scholars who were also great communicators; and C S Lewis and Henry Moore, Fellows who combined learning with creativity.

THE ACADEMY’S HOME
In 1998, the Academy moved to its present headquarters at 10 Carlton House Terrace. One of London’s finest Georgian treasures, the Terrace, which overlooks St James’s Park, was designed by John Nash and built in the 1820s and 1830s. Number 10 was formerly the London residence of the Ridley family and also housed a Hospital.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK
The British Academy’s Strategic Framework for 2013–18 defines its mission as ‘to inspire, recognise and support high achievement in the humanities and social sciences throughout the UK and internationally, and to champion their role and value’.

The Academy has three principal roles:

A Fellowship, composed of distinguished scholars from all areas of the humanities and social sciences, elected by their peers, which promotes the work of these disciplines and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

A Funding Body, supporting the best ideas, individuals and intellectual resources in the humanities and social sciences, wherever they are located.

A Voice, providing independent advice about the health of disciplines and the needs of research, contributing evidence to strengthen policymaking, enhancing public understanding and debate, and representing the humanities and the social sciences in the UK and internationally.
for Wounded Officers during the First World War. Number 11, now also occupied by the Academy, was from 1856 to 1875 the home of Prime Minister William Gladstone, including his first great ministry from 1868 to 1874.

**DONORS**

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Following a detailed review of its fundraising activities, the Academy concluded that there is significant potential for further development. A new case for support focuses on the theme of ‘Excellence for the Future’, an ambitious programme that encapsulates the Academy’s aims of strengthening its disciplines, bringing on the next generation of scholars and enabling them to tackle major challenges.