

END OF YEAR REPORT FOR 2008

Kim Knott, Programme Director

1. Introduction

The purpose of the Director's post is to provide intellectual leadership for the Diasporas, Migration and Identities programme (2005-2010). The Director, supported by the Administrator and Steering Committee, develops and manages the programme, conducts outreach, maintains excellence, adds value, raises awareness, and monitors progress within the programme. The end-of-year report is the formal point in the annual cycle where the activities and achievements of the programme team can be presented, and the progress of the programme as a whole evaluated.

1.1 Programme objectives and themes

The Programme Specification identifies the objectives of the programme, its themes and priorities, and it is in the context of these that the work of the Director and Administrator can best be evaluated. The objectives of the AHRC Diasporas, Migration and Identities Programme are as follows:

- i To stimulate high quality research on diasporas, migration and identities across the arts and humanities which will both draw upon a wide range of disciplinary resources and skills, and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in and beyond the academy;
- ii To make a distinctive contribution to the theoretical, conceptual, thematic, practice-led and empirical study of diasporas, migration and identities by focusing on cultural, historical and linguistic perspectives and creative practice;
- iii To develop a body of theory, methods and cases to enable a comparative analysis of diasporas, migration and their associated identities to be undertaken;
- iv To facilitate connection, communication and exchange – at both programme and project level – between researchers and a wide range of individuals and organisations who have an interest in their research and its outcomes, including those in the cultural sector, media, government, public and voluntary bodies, and to contribute to the development of public policy;
- v To contribute to public awareness of arts and humanities research on diasporas, migration and identities;
- vi To generate research findings and outcomes of international significance and quality, to disseminate these to an international research audience, and to develop networks of researchers in and beyond the UK;

- vii To develop new connections and approaches that may become embedded in the research agenda and resources of the arts and humanities, and may be built on in future applications to AHRC for funding in responsive mode.

The objectives continue to be met by the programme as a whole and its associated projects (see 2.1 below), and this process is monitored through the submission of annual project progress reports and end-of-award reports.¹

1.2 Key achievements in 2008

- Continuation of large research projects;
- Significant project outputs and events underway;
- Completion of seven out of nine networks and all five workshops (of the nine end of award reports submitted and assessed, six rated 'good' and three 'outstanding');
- Joint programme conferences and other events; planning of further events for 2009;
- Diasporas book symposium held; submission of half the essays; editing begins;
- Planning of other programme outputs (for which additional funding must be sought);
- Dissemination of the programme through presentations and meetings with stakeholders at national and international level;
- New awards and developments for award holders;
- Director's contribution to RCUK and other public activity;
- One project (Tate Encounters) nominated for THES award (for Best Research Project 2008).

2. Report of programme activities

2.1 Programme data, management and delivery

(a) Interdisciplinarity (Objective i)

In last year's report I considered the range of projects within the programme by discipline of principal investigator. As the first DMI objective suggests, however,

¹ In the 2007 end-of-year report programme activities planned for 2008 were listed in section 4. These activities took place as planned with those objectives pending from 2006 being accomplished (the participation in programme events of project RAs and the hosting of open events budgeted for 2007).

interdisciplinarity has also been important. The programme's networks and workshops were important in this respect, and for several it was formative. The workshop series on 'Migration in the first millennium' (Heather) sought to identify new approaches towards the impasse over migration in this period, bringing together archaeologists, historians, DNA specialists, scholars of language and linguistics and social scientists to debate population movement and cultural interaction. The Manchester Migration and Diaspora Cultural Studies Network (Gutierrez Rodriguez) attracted scholars from anthropology, English and American studies, political science, drama, languages, sociology, film studies, gender studies and linguistics to its three workshops on diaspora theory: 'Old terms for new phenomena?', 'Borders and bordering', and 'Queer diasporas'. The network 'From diaspora to multi-locality: Writing British Asian cities' (McLoughlin), with investigators from history, English studies and religious studies at the University of Leeds, also brought in and considered the writing of anthropologists and sociologists as well as creative writers, journalists, local and oral historians, and local government officers. The edited volume resulting from this network will examine some of the different disciplinary perspectives on the writing of 'BrAsian' cities.

Many of the large projects have also been interdisciplinary, with investigators finding this a challenge as well as a benefit, some noting the difficulty of translation between disciplines and discovering that they operated with different starting points with reference to 'diaspora' (Nov '08 workshop). Significant gains have been noted by award holders in projects where historians have worked with those from other disciplines, such as sociology, anthropology or geography. Those projects involving independent research organizations have also seen the benefit of bringing artists and curators alongside cultural geographers ('Fashioning diasporas', Crang) and sociologists and cultural studies scholars ('Tate Encounters', Dewdney).

(b) International engagement and significance (Objective vi)

Perhaps not surprisingly, given the focus of this strategic programme, the internationalization of diasporas research has also been important, with good examples present in all the award schemes. In terms of small grants, John Baily's research on Afghan music in London and its ongoing connections with Kabul and Afghan diasporic communities built on a career of practice-led and engaged research with musicians in Afghanistan and elsewhere. Other small grants focused on migrants and refugees on the Thai/Burma border (Dudley), in Sudan and Uganda (Kaiser), Palestinians in the Lebanon (Holt), and German Lutherans and their music in Australia (Richards). The large project on 'Black Sea Currents' which has focused on migratory dynamics in the two post-imperial cities of Odessa and Istanbul (Humphrey), like these small grants, has required extensive fieldwork beyond the UK. Other projects have involved cross-country research and comparisons (also Objective iii), such as the projects on Bengali settlers in South Asia and Britain (Chatterji) and on caring, sociality and the religious imagination in the Filipina diaspora in Saudi Arabia and Israel (Werbner), or transnational movements, of Bengali children (Gardner), and German-Greek and American-Greek return migrants (King). All of these projects have involved the investigators in developing research relationships with local ethnographers, participants, officials and other informants, and sometimes in using local archives, universities and research institutes. In addition, events and performances have been held outside the UK in association with

the project on devolving diasporas (Procter), in which reading groups were held in Nigeria, India, Trinidad and Canada as well as all over the UK, and the project on transnational musicians (Meinhof). As part of their participatory research, investigators in the latter co-organised major musical performances in Antananarivo, Madagascar and Rabat, Morocco, the latter in collaboration with the Faculty of Letters, Université Mohammed V-Agdal, the Centre for Cross-Cultural Learning, the School for International Training and a research group on 'Migration and Culture' at the University Mohamed V-Agdal in Rabat.

Other projects have brought in international consultants and co-researchers through their networks. Major examples have been 'Migrant and diasporic cinema in contemporary Europe' (Berghahn) with central network members from the UK, Turkey and Belgium, active participation from scholars in Australia, Austria, Netherlands, Israel, Canada and the US, and from industry experts in Germany and France as well as the UK, and 'Dress and the African diaspora' (Tulloch), with contributors from South Africa, US, Italy, Germany, Belgium and the Caribbean.

Events have also illustrated the international nature of programme participation. The joint conference on 'Encounters and Intersections' (see 2.4 below) attracted scholars and postgraduates from twelve countries. The large grant workshop in November, for principal and co-investigators, RAs and project research students, brought together UK-based researchers with ethnic origins in fifteen countries in and beyond Europe as well as white and black British and British Asians.

(c) Monitoring of awards

Project monitoring has continued through face-to-face meetings with project teams, email exchange, attendance at events, reviewing of end-of-year and end-of-award reports, and Steering Committee mentoring.

The Director held fifteen update meetings during the course of the year, attended four events held by projects, listened to twenty presentations by award holders at conferences (plus a further fifteen at the programme workshop in November). Steering Committee members visited or spoke on the telephone to large grant award holders as part of the mentoring scheme, and these reviews were discussed at the May and December meetings of the Committee.

Although no major problems were identified, it was clear that meetings between award holders and the Director or mentors were useful for raising issues of staffing, timetabling, budget adjustments etc, some of which then led to formal requests to AHRC for extensions and other changes.

Most of the networks came to an end in 2008, with six end-of-award reports received (not all of which have yet been assessed). They show the high volume of activity generated in association with the Networks and Workshops scheme. End-of-award assessors have stressed the extraordinary achievements arising from relatively small investments (see reports, Ansari, Berghahn, and Gutierrez-Rodriguez). (Objective i)

End-of-year reports have been received from all of the fifteen large project teams, summaries of which are provided in Annex 10, with output data for 2008 for the

whole programme provided in the table in Annex 11. The programme continues to generate large numbers of outputs: printed articles, books and reports (115) and electronic websites, blogs and papers (51), performances and exhibitions (17), as well as 150 events, public as well as academic. Many more are in press or planned for 2009-10.

In addition to Directors Away Days, meetings were held with AHRC staff on evaluation, impact, and communications. In particular the Director has worked with the impact team to identify a number of case studies, some to be conducted by AHRC and others by the Director herself. Preliminary conversations with relevant project teams were held at the large grant workshop in November.

The Director's activities were logged, and the programme timetable revised for future years to reflect changes to plans, proposed collaborative ventures etc. Annual expenditure has been monitored by the Administrator and a budgetary statement for 2008 prepared.

The Director and Administrator participated in the University of Leeds Staff Review Scheme and attended the following training workshops during the year:

- AHRC Directors' Away Days (Director);
- Training for Staff Reviewers (Director);
- Knowledge Transfer: Museums and Galleries (Director);
- TIFES Briefings (Towards Investors in People: Management; Equality and Diversity issues) (Director);
- AHRC Peer Reviews and Research Panel Training (Director);
- Dreamweaver Advanced Web Authoring course (Administrator);
- How to Raise a SIPR (Staff Internet Purchase Requisition) (Administrator)
- Goods Receipting Training (Administrator).

2.2 Liaison with projects/PIs

As in previous years, those involved in the DMI programme have had considerable contact with award-holders with AHRC staff fielding email and telephone enquiries regarding changes to awards and end-of-award reports, the Administrator dealing with day-to-day queries, event organising, and sending out and receiving progress report forms, and the Director holding meetings and attending events. A residential conference for large research project teams was held in Leeds from 19-21 November, attended by forty-seven participants (8 PIs, 9 Co-Is, 19 RAs, 2 consultants, 4 doctoral students, plus three AHRC officers, the Director and the Administrator) (Annex 6). Project teams addressed the issue of 'New Directions' and spoke about the theoretical, methodological and substantive innovations arising from their research (Objective vii). Workshops on impact and communications were held, led respectively by Laura Lugg and Jake Gilmore from AHRC. The Director gave a programme update and led discussions on programme outreach – focused on research partnerships with museums, galleries, public and voluntary bodies – and forthcoming events. Informal discussion over coffee, meals and in the evenings enabled researchers to make new connections and share ideas. Several projects have made arrangements to collaborate further; and offers to host future programme

seminars, on practice-led research and participatory methods, have been received as a result of the conference. Feedback on the event has been very positive, and the Director is preparing a summary of key points raised in discussion.

The large grant award made by AHRC to Susheila Nasta under the Research Grants Scheme, for 'Making Britain: Visions of Home and Abroad 1870-1950' has been affiliated to the DMI programme, and Professor Nasta and one of her team attended the November workshop. An earlier version of this project was shortlisted in the DMI large grants competition but not funded. Submitted successfully to the Research Grants scheme, the project examines the formative South Asian contributions to Britain's cultural, literary and political life from 1870 to 1950, looking in particular at influential affiliations and groupings working at the heart of empire.²

2.3 Problems/issues at programme level

Minor amendments to project end dates have been made as a result of maternity leave and other staffing changes. In the spring the programme lost one of the four research students attached to its large projects.

A major concern discussed at meetings of the Steering Committee has been how best to capitalize upon the programme's advances and ensure its legacy. Information is provided in section 2.9 below about our final year aims for sustaining 'Diasporas, Migration and Identities' beyond the formal lifetime of the programme. The extent to which these can be met, the barriers to their fulfillment, and the best methods for achieving them have all been discussed, with helpful suggestions generated on how best to maintain and make good use of the DMI website going forward, on identifying productive means for obtaining information on future publications, achievements and impact from award holders, and on ensuring that project teams keep their own websites up-to-date. The difficulties of capturing the longer-term impacts of a programme like DMI were noted, and will continue to be discussed by the Steering Committee in the final year.

How to get the best out of AHRC's significant strategic investments has been the central issue in all these discussions, not just at project level, but at the level of the whole programme and at various points in its lifecycle, including the end of the programme when project findings and advances can be identified, brought together, analysed in relation to one another, written up and disseminated.

2.4 Summary of programme-level workshops/seminars/other activities

In addition to the award-holders conference in November, four major events were organised three of which were held in conjunction with other strategic programmes.

- (a) 'Encounters and Intersections: Religion, Diaspora and Ethnicities', joint programmes conference, St Catherine's College Oxford, 9-11 July 2008, AHRC 'Diasporas, Migration and Identities', ESRC 'Identities and Social Action' (Margaret Wetherell) and AHRC/ESRC 'Religion and Society' (Linda Woodhead). With 164 participants from twelve countries, 86 papers delivered

² For further information, see <http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/south-asians-making-britain/>.

in total (thirteen by PGs) including a keynote lecture by Professor Paul Gilroy and two plenaries that featured some of the projects within the three participating programmes. The work of individuals and teams funded by the DMI programme was well represented with two small award holders, one workshop, two networks and eight large grant award holders delivering papers. (Objectives i, vi)

- (b) 'Diaspora Landscapes', full day session at the RGS/IBG Annual Conference, 'Geographies Matter', Royal Geographical Society London, 27-29 August 2008, organised jointly by AHRC 'Diasporas, Migration and Identities', AHRC 'Landscape and Environment' (Stephen Daniels) and Leverhulme Trust project, 'Diaspora Cities' (Alison Blunt). With fifteen papers presented, five by DMI award holders, this session focused on material and imaginative geographies of diaspora landscapes and the ways in which they reflect and influence migratory cultures, politics, identities and practices. (Objectives i, iii)
- (c) 'Researching Diasporas and Religion', 2-day postgraduate workshop with keynote lecture, Camden Lock London, 15-16 December, co-organised with AHRC/ESRC 'Religion and Society' (Linda Woodhead). This event included a workshop for postgraduate students working on diasporas led by the Director, a keynote lecture by Professor Thomas Tweed (University of Texas, Austin) on 'Crossing and dwelling: A diasporic theory of religion', a reception and dinner. Fourteen students attended the workshop, and fifty the keynote lecture.
- (d) Diasporas book symposium, a three day event held at the Weetwood Conference Centre in Leeds, 8-10 April, which brought together thirteen of the contributors (including several from the US and Europe) to present their papers and discuss the book's structure and common themes. The event was attended by the editors, Kim Knott and Sean McLoughlin, and by the publisher's editor, Ellen McNley of Zed Books.

The edited book which is being compiled in association with the programme, *Diasporas: Concepts, Identities, Intersections* (due for publication in 2010), is in process. The editors have met on a number of occasions during the year to discuss contracts, templates and essay outlines, the book symposium, and completed contributions. The book has major international outreach potential for the programme both during and after its lifetime. (Objective vi)

The Director has given nine presentations about the programme during the year, including at AHRC Research Committee and at events organized by DMI award holders and other diasporas researchers. She has actively publicized the programme at conferences and other events in the UK, Germany, Sweden and Singapore. (Objectives i, vi)

2.5 Key communication and outreach activities

The Director participated in one of two seminars co-organised by Demos and AHRC in the spring on 'The Cultural Age'. 'The Cultural Age and Integration and Citizenship', with presentations by speakers from the Young Foundation and the Arts

Council as well as the DMI Director and Sam Jones from Demos, was held on 23 June and was attended by about thirty participants from public bodies, NGOs, arts organizations, foundations and universities. (Objectives iv and v)

In October she joined a panel to debate 'Researching the Arts: Why Bother?' at a satellite event of the Battle of Ideas (organized annually by the Institute of Ideas). Although the purpose was not to publicize the programme as such, she argued for the importance of engaged research of the kind being undertaken within it, particularly for the 'useful arts' and research with relevance for a wider non-academic public. (Objective v)

The Director made contacts with representatives of local and regional museums and galleries at events in the spring and summer. She had to turn down several other invitations (stakeholder events on migration and violent extremism) due to diary clashes and over-commitment. (Objective vi)

The Director gave invited lectures on the programme's historical research, at the University of Erfurt, Germany, on its methodological innovations, at the annual conference of the British Institute for Middle Eastern Studies, and (with Linda Woodhead) on AHRC strategic programmes at the National University of Singapore. She gave other invited contributions on her research on diasporas, religion and space at seminars and conferences in Dalarna (Sweden), Lisbon, Utrecht, Brno and Groningen as well as Birkbeck, London and Leeds. (Objectives ii, vi)

At project level, award-holders have also publicized the programme in association with their innovative research. A case study of the large project on 'The conversion of asylum applicants' narratives into legal discourses in the UK and France: A comparative study of problems of cultural translation' was presented in the *AHRC Review of the Year 2007-08*.³ The study reported that the research will have a range of important policy and scholarly applications and benefits, contributing 'to fairer decision making relating to asylum applications in France and the UK, as well as assisting NGOs in both countries to develop best practice.' Members of the large project 'Cultural geographies of counter-migrations: The second generation returns home' (King and Christou) circulated programme information in association with their invited paper at the joint conference on diasporas and transnationalism of IMISCOE (International Migration, Integration, Social Cohesion) and the European University Institute in Florence, in April. As part of Black History Month in November, the 'Tate Encounters' team (Dewdney) were invited by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to give an interim presentation on their research to an audience of over fifty from DCMS, the Museums and Libraries Association, the heritage and museums and galleries sectors, and various voluntary bodies and arts organizations. (Objectives iv, vi)

In their final dissemination events, Rosemary Sales and her team at Middlesex University presented their research to both academic and non-academic audiences.⁴

³ *AHRC Review of the Year 2007-08*, pp. 10-11, <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/About/Publications/Documents/Review%20of%20the%20Year%2007-08.pdf>.

⁴ Rosemary Sales and team, 'New Research on Chinese Migration' (14 November) and 'Cityscapes of Diaspora: Chinatowns and Beyond' (15 November). AHRC funded research on London's Chinatown ran in parallel with

In the workshop on 'New research on Chinese migration', community members contributed, with speakers from London Chinese Community Centre, Chinese Immigration Concern Committee, Chinese National Healthy Living Association and Hsiao-Hung Pai (author of *Chinese Whispers*) presenting their own perspectives, and Don Flynn of Migrants' Rights Watch summing up and responding. (Objectives iv, v)

In November the BBC World Service called for programme pitches for its 2009 season on migration and diasporas. This season has arisen in conjunction with research conducted by the project team led by Marie Gillespie, 'Tuning In: Diasporic contact zones at the BBC World Service'. The call for proposals was circulated to large grant and network award holders, a number of whom submitted ideas. Nine of these were developed by David Goldblatt, an independent producer, and submitted for consideration. In advance of the season Matilda Andersson, a researcher on the 'Tuning In' team, published an article on the digital diasporas and the world service in the BBC's international journal, *World Agenda*.⁵ (Objectives iv, v, vi)

Several of the large projects now have informative and in some cases interactive websites. (Objectives iv, v) 'Tate Encounters', the collaborative project between London South Bank University, Wimbledon College of Art and Tate Britain (Dewdney), has published three issues of its electronic publication '[E]dition' on its website in 2008.⁶ On 'Spectatorship, subjectivity and the national collection of British Art', 'Visual culture and the expanded field', and 'Post-critical museology', each presents editorials, papers, sounds and images (often in the form of audio-visual essays) with the aim of bringing together theoretical and methodological interventions with studies of ethnographic practice and cultural history.

The TNMundi website, 'Diaspora as social and cultural practice: Transnational networks across Europe and Africa' (Meinhof) provides an audio visual and textual record of its musical events in Madagascar and Morocco, and links to the webpages and 'myspace' sites of its collaborating musicians and artists.⁷ The 'Fashioning Diasporas' webpages (Crang, Royal Holloway and V&A),⁸ hosted by the V&A website, in addition to providing information about the research, present a blog by the project's practice-led researcher, Helen Scalway.⁹ She takes inspiration from various sites, objects and museum collections in the UK and India to reflect on 'moving patterns'. Those who have responded to the blog have been moved by her beautiful images and ideas and made their own observations and connections. (Objective ii)

This is an impressive array of outreach activities and opportunities, and there are many more to come, with important exhibitions taking place next year at the Museum of Childhood in Bethnal Green in association with the 'Home and Away' project on children's transnational experiences (Gardner and Mand), and at the Royal Geographical Society in association with 'Fashioning Diasporas' (V&A and Royal

Heritage Lottery funded research on 'The changing Chinese community in London: new migration, new needs'. For further information, see <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/schools/hssc/research/centres/sprc/projects.asp>.

⁵ Matilda Andersson, 'Mapping digital diasporas', *World Agenda: The BBC's International Journal*, September 2008, pp. 14-17. http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/specials/1641_wagus08/page5.shtml.

⁶ 'Tate Encounters: Britishness and Visual Culture', <http://www.tate.org.uk/research/tateresearch/majorprojects/tate-encounters/>.

⁷ 'TNMundi', <http://www.tnmundi.soton.ac.uk/index.htm>.

⁸ 'Fashioning Diasporas', http://www.vam.ac.uk/collections/paintings/moving_patterns/index.html.

⁹ 'Moving Patterns', blog by Helen Scalway, http://www.vam.ac.uk/vastatic/microsites/1750_scalway/blog/.

Holloway, Breward and Crang). The following year, after the end of the programme, the new standing exhibition on the Romans at the Yorkshire Museum will be launched, with exhibits based on the exciting work conducted by Hella Eckardt and her team on 'Diaspora communities in Roman Britain'. Many other events and activities are planned of which more will be said in next year's report. (Objectives iv, v)

2.6 Postgraduate level involvement and activities within the programme

The programme continues to make an important contribution to building academic capacity in the field of diaspora studies. Having held a successful postgraduate conference in Leeds in December 2006, we decided to combine our efforts with those of the 'Religion and Society' Programme to organise a further event in December 2008. The 'Researching Diasporas and Religion' postgraduate event, Camden Lock, London, held on 15-16 December, included a workshop with diasporas postgraduates and a keynote lecture (see 2.4 above). Postgraduates have also attended some of our other events, particularly 'Encounters and Intersections' at which bursaries were awarded to seven students who presented papers.

Financial support was provided by the programme to organizers of the postgraduate conference on 'Gender and Borders' (which arose in conjunction with the Migration and Diasporas Cultural Studies Network at the University of Manchester), for keynote lecturer and other costs.

The *Inter-sections* blog, begun by a small group of postgraduates with the support of the DMI Programme in 2007, continues with monthly updates, covering issues such as mapping diasporas, second generation, cultures of migration in Italy, intercultural dialogue and diaspora fiction.¹⁰

Three of the four postgraduate awards made in conjunction with large research projects are in progress (see 2.3 above). A working paper by Benji Zeitlyn, on challenging language in the diaspora, is one of several new papers on the Programme website.¹¹ Two of the PGs participated in the November large grants workshop and gave progress reports on their projects (the third was on maternity leave).

The Director gave a presentation about the programme at a postgraduate conference on 'After Empire', organized by the Institute for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies at the University of Leeds.

2.7 International collaborations at programme level (Objective vi)

With Linda Woodhead of 'Religion and Society', the Director made a research visit to the National University of Singapore, hosted by Professor Lily Kong, to explore common interests with scholars working in research clusters on 'Religion' and 'Migration'. She talked about the DMI programme, the climate for research funding in the UK, and gave a paper on her own research.

¹⁰ Inter-sections blog, <http://intersections.wordpress.com/>

¹¹ Working papers, <http://www.diasporas.ac.uk/workingpapers.htm>.

She continued to participate as an International Advisor for the project on 'The Religious Lives of Immigrant Minorities: A Transnational Perspective', funded by the American Social Science Research Council (Migration Program). She was part of a successful capacity building bid (on religious pluralization) made to the Norface programme on 'The re-emergence of religion as a social force in Europe'.

For a discussion of international participation in the project and some of the cross-country studies within it, see 2.1 above.

2.8 Collaborative partnerships in HE and beyond (Objective iv)

At programme level we expect such collaborative partnerships to be of two types: (a) collaborations between the DMI programme and other research initiatives and programmes funded by research councils and other academic bodies, and (b) those between the programme or its projects and non-academic partners of various kinds.

(a) In 2008 collaborative work begun the previous year came to fruition with several cross-programme events taking place: 'Encounters and Intersections: Religion, Diasporas and Ethnicity', (in association with AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society and ESRC Identities and Social Action); 'Diaspora Landscapes', a joint session at the annual conference of the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers in London (in association with AHRC Landscapes and Environment and Leverhulme Diaspora Cities); and 'Researching Diasporas and Religion', a workshop for research students (in association with Religion and Society).

Discussions have taken place over the last six months with the Centre for Research on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CRONEM) regarding a joint conference to be held in June 2009 on 'Diasporas, Migration and Identities: Crossing Boundaries, New Directions', and also with the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Performing and Visual Arts and Cultures at the University of Leeds with whom a joint conference will be held in September 2009 on 'Research Partnerships and Impact in the Arts and Humanities'.

The Director continued to participate in the Advisory Board and Commissioning Panel for the ESRC/AHRC/FCO programme on 'New Security Challenges: "Radicalisation", A Critical Reassessment'. She contributed views on the RCUK proposal on 'Connecting Communities', and was commissioned by the Economic and Social Research Council to write a meta-review on ESRC's Strategic Challenge on 'Religion, ethnicity and society' (submitted mid-November).

(b) Collaborations between the programme or its projects and non-academic partners have been of various kinds. (Objectives iv and v) Already mentioned is the joint venture between AHRC and Demos to hold seminars on 'The Cultural Age' in which the DMI and 'Religion and Society' Programmes took part. Collaborations with the Runnymede Trust and English Heritage are in the discussion phase.

Those projects involving Independent Research Organisations (Crang and V&A; Dewdney and Tate Britain) have been very productive. These collaborations have enabled university-based scholars and museum-based researchers and curators to work together to research the historical and contemporary significance of artefacts

and documents in the collections, to reflect on communications and access issues, to explore new ways of engaging diasporic audiences, and to theorize and use ethnographic and practice-led research to consider aspects of curatorship and museology.

The project collaboration with the BBC World Service ('Tuning In', Gillespie) led to the organization of a major conference (December 2007) to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the World Service which brought together over a hundred academics and broadcasters. Marie Gillespie, Gerd Baumann and Alban Webb co-edited the key papers for a special issue of the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*.¹²

Interesting collaborations were also witnessed in several networks and workshops (now completed). The investigators who established the 'Forum for the comparative study of Jews and Muslims in Britain, Europe and North America' (Ansari and Cesarani, Royal Holloway) identified a number of partners from Jewish and Muslim religious centres and multi-faith bodies for participation in their workshop series in 2006. Presenters at the practitioner workshop included the Director of the Inter Faith Network for the UK, the Minority Faiths Advisor to the Cohesion and Faiths Unit at the Department for Communities and Local Government, the President of Alif-Aleph UK (British Muslims and Jews), the Co-ordinator of the Three Faiths Forum, Chair of the Interfaith Relations Council of the Muslim Council of Britain, and several rabbis, imams and Jewish and Muslim scholars. Subsequent to the workshops the principal investigator (Ansari) was invited to become a member of the Advisory Board of the Three Faiths Forum. The papers presented at the workshops were made available online as an edited e-book, *Muslim-Jewish Dialogue in a 21st Century World*.¹³ This workshop series was assessed as 'outstanding'.

Also with an assessment of 'outstanding', the network on 'Migrant and diasporic cinema in contemporary Europe (Berghahn, Royal Holloway, and Sternberg, Leeds) held its second conference (2007) on 'The industrial context of migrant and diasporic cinema'.¹⁴ It was organized in collaboration with IGRS, Ciné Lumière and the French Institute in London. Seven media professionals made presentations, including a production and diversity advisor, several film makers and producers, a representative of the Amiens Film Festival and the managing director of Soda Pictures UK. Throughout the lifetime of the network, Gareth Jones of BABYLON, a film training and funding initiative, was actively involved. In association with this he went on to organize a festival and symposium on migrant and diasporic film at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin in November 2008.¹⁵

¹² *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, 28 (4), October 2008.

¹³ Ansari, Humayun and Cesarani, David, eds. (2007) *Muslim-Jewish dialogue in a 21st Century world*. Centre for Minority Studies, History Department, Royal Holloway University of London, Egham. ISBN 9781905846122. <http://www.rhul.ac.uk/History/Research/CSJM06/>.

¹⁴ Daniela Berghahn, 'Migrant and diasporic cinema in contemporary Europe, <http://www.migrantcinema.net/>.

¹⁵ BABYLON, <http://www.babylon-film.eu/>.

2.9 Sustaining 'Diasporas, migration and identities' beyond the life-time of the programme (Objective vii)

As the previous item shows, the networks funded within the programme have a life beyond the end of their funding. Major edited collections are in press or in preparation (e.g. Berghahn and Sternberg eds, *European Cinema in Motion: Migrant and Diasporic Cinema in Contemporary Europe*, Wallflower Press, 2009; McLoughlin, Kabir, Gould and Tomalin eds, *Writing British Asian Cities: From Diaspora to Multi-Locality*). Further events have been held (e.g. Gutierrez Rodriguez, Migration and Diasporas Cultural Studies Network, 'Gender and Borders/Boundaries, June 2008; O'Neill, Making the Connections, 'New communities in Nottinghamshire: The experience of new European migration', March 2008, and exhibition, Nottingham Trent University gallery, Jan-March 2009).

In their progress and end-of-award reports, several PIs note the submission of further applications to AHRC and other funding bodies (including their own institutions). Kate Pahl (small grant, 'Artefacts and narratives of migration: Rotherham museum collections and the Pakistani/Kashmiri community of Rotherham') was awarded a knowledge transfer grant by the University of Sheffield to turn her research findings into a learning resources pack. *Every Object Tells a Story* was launched in March 2008 and since then NIACE has publicized the research. Drawing on the pack, a further grant was received from the Museums and Libraries Association Yorkshire to develop an engaged approach to working with other local museums. A further application has been made to AHRC by Pahl and Sharon Macdonald, in conjunction with Weston Park Museum, for research on 'Translating Objects'. (Objectives iv and v; impact)

Kira Kosnick, who was successful in the small grant competition but withdrew due to her move from the UK to the University of Frankfurt am Main, was awarded an ERC Starting Grant for an expanded version of her AHRC project (€1,244,517): 'New migrant socialities: Ethnic club cultures in urban Europe'.

Christina Lee, one of the co-investigators of the Viking Identities Network (Jesch), with Caroline Swift, was awarded a collaborative AHRC/Irish Research Council grant to work on 'Migration of Irish, Hiberno-Norse and other Gaelic-speaking populations in the Viking Age'.

The 'Tuning In' team (Gillespie et al) have successfully obtained funding from the BBC World Service Marketing, Audiences and Communications Department to undertake research on Pakistani diaspora audiences, and have received two small grants (ESRC Festival of Social Sciences) in association with other aspects of their work.

Other applications for funding are being prepared or have been submitted and are awaiting outcomes.

In the final year the Director and Administrator will work to sustain and develop the contribution of the programme and secure its impact beyond the period of funding:

- Evidence to be collected and stored in association with the Programme Evaluation Framework (see End-of-Year Report for 2006, Annex 4);
- Project achievements, publications and findings to be identified, publicized and disseminated (through events, briefings, press releases and the website);
- Website to be updated to include achievements, publications, findings, progress reports for 2008, posters etc;
- Series of forward-looking events in 2009-2010 to be held which will disseminate theoretical, methodological and KT advances of the programme, thus releasing them for future development (academic programme conference, 'Diasporas, Migration and Identities: Crossing Boundaries, New Directions'; stakeholder conference on 'Research partnerships and impact in the Arts and Humanities'; open methods seminars on participatory methods and practice-led research; final showcase event);
- Completion of edited book (with Sean McLoughlin), *Diasporas: Concepts, Intersections, Identities*, which will show the current face of diasporas research and present essays on new directions;
- Completion by Director and AHRC Impact and Communications teams of case studies of selected projects;
- Director to apply to AHRC for funding for a further phase of research and dissemination in order to bring together advances made across the programme on theoretical and methodological issues and knowledge exchange;
- Possible application/s to other funding bodies, in association with project teams, for creative dissemination of diasporas research through post-programme events.

3. Project Summaries and programme performance data (tables at Annex 10 and Annex 11)

Basic project data, with information about progress and highlights for 2008, can be found on http://www.diasporas.ac.uk/large_research_projects.htm. Data for these summaries was collected in January 2009 from annual progress reports. End-of-Award Reports were received in 2008 for nine small grants, workshops and networks (several still outstanding due to extensions). AHRC holds copies of these reports which have not been summarized here.

Data on programme outputs and outcomes for 2008 have been presented to AHRC. They show the range and scale of academic and non-academic dissemination that the programme has given rise to in 2008, reflecting in particular the work of networks and large project teams (and the Director herself).

4. Timetable and milestones

Planned programme activities to end February 2010 include:

- Monitoring of large research projects, attending project events, update meetings etc;
- Oversight of End-of-Award reports (though many large grants will not submit these until after the formal end of the Programme in Feb 2010);
- Two conferences (June and Sept 2009), two open seminars on methods, one final showcase event (Jan/Feb 2010);
- Continued outreach meetings, dissemination through keynote lectures, presentations etc;
- Completion and submission for publication of programme book;
- Further development of international links and collaborations;
- Further cross-programme and collaborative engagement;
- Monitoring of applications for funding, new award and other key achievements of award holders;
- Summarizing of project findings for widespread dissemination;
- Preparation of impact and other case studies (Director and AHRC impact and comms teams);
- Preparation and collection of documents in support of programme evaluation framework (Director and Administrator);
- Final updating of website re project findings, achievements, publications etc (Director and Administrator);
- Preparation and first drafting of final end-of-programme report;
- Application for funding by Director to support post-programme dissemination of theoretical, methodological and KT advances of whole programme.