

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
UNIVERSITY OF WALES SWANSEA
ANTHROPOLOGY CAUCUS**

RESPONSE TO RA REVIEW

We have not had time to make a systematic response to the questions asked, but would like the following points to be noted.

7 (c) The unit of assessment in federal universities has potential for small subject groups such as Anthropology. We would be interested in a more flexible and co-operative form of assessment which allowed, or even encouraged, researchers from different sections in a federal university to be evaluated together. Unless strategies like this are encouraged, it could be that future RAE submissions for Anthropology in Wales are conspicuous by their absence.

We are also interested in the situation which arose in the last RAE, in which a researcher may be submitted to different units. For instance, one colleague was included in the local subject group submission, and also in a submission from SCOMGIU (Modern Greek Studies) which as far as she was aware carried no specific institutional affiliation.

18 (h) Whatever path is pursued, we would ask for attention to be paid to any risk of rigidifying or discriminating against disciplines. The current policy about retired members of staff could also be viewed as ageist. For instance, one colleague had two original research monographs published too late for inclusion in the last RAE, but will have reached the age of retirement by the next exercise (if it happens). Current policy would mean that this work will not have received the credit it is due.

18 (c) We agreed that the three most important priorities for any future exercise are the following:

- Not burdensome
- Fair to individuals and institutions
- Resistant to games-playing

We would hope that any future RAE would aim to avoid being as divisive and demoralizing as the last one.

27 November 2002