

Professor John Hearn
Executive Director
1 May 2017

WUN PRESIDENTS FORUM, NEW YORK 5 MAY- WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

The annual gathering of WUN, incorporating University Presidents, leaders and experts in our Global Challenge Groups, is an opportunity to bring our unique mix of talent to focus on pressing world issues.

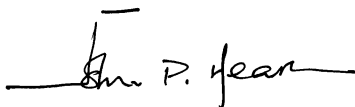
This year, we take the opportunity of being in New York to consider the role of Universities, Research and Higher Education in the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

A partnership of 21 leading research universities from 5 continents, with global capacities and reach, can engage in such a challenge. We are delighted to extend our partnership with our friends and colleagues in the United Nations, International Agencies and Foundations that are based in New York.

As with all WUN strategic workshops, we look forward to sharing front line thinking, bringing evidence based research to policy, and defining our objectives and program outcomes for the next few years. WUN holds workshops, not talk shops, so our attention is on practical strategies and results.

The program of the Forum has been developed carefully in consultation with all those involved and many others around the world. We thank all who have contributed ideas and suggestions as we refined the program, and we look forward to continued teamwork as we implement the conclusions and next steps.

Yours sincerely



WUN Presidents Forum:
THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:
Universities, Higher Education and Research in Global Development
Friday 5 May 2017: Opening dinner Thursday 4 May 2017
Venue: Hotel ONE UN New York, 1 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA
Program 21 April 2017 Version 10, FINAL

Thursday 4 May 2017

WUN Conference Opening Dinner (optional, dress code smart casual)

Time: 18.00h drinks for 19.00h start.

Venue: Hotel ONE UN New York, 1 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA **[ENTRANCE on E44 STREET]**

Friday 5 May 2017

0830	Registration ONE UN Hotel NEW YORK
	Coffee and tea will be provided through the meeting
0900	Welcome and Objectives
	Prof Joseph Sung , President Chinese University of Hong Kong; Chair, Partnership Board (5m) Prof John Hearn Executive Director WUN, Professor University of Sydney Medical School (5m)
0910	Session 1 The UN Sustainable Development Goals: Focus, Implementation and Delivery Chair: Prof Martin Paul , President Maastricht University; Vice Chair, Partnership Board (5m)
	<p>Opening speakers – 20 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Jeffrey Sachs, Director, Earth Institute Columbia University The Role of Universities in meeting the SDGs • Mr Shantanu Mukherjee, Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division of Sustainable Development Implementation, monitoring and assessment of the SDGs <p>Panel – 7 min each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Stuart McCutcheon, President, University of Auckland • Prof Peter Mbithi, President, University of Nairobi <p>Discussion –30 min What are the practical imperatives for access and inclusion in the SDGs in Higher Education and Research? How can global university networks engage and deliver, including WUN alignment with the SDGs in Health, Education, Environment, Cultural Understanding?</p>
1030	Coffee

1100	Session 2 Action plans for engagement with the SDGs – global and local, including fragile economies Chair: Dr Max Price , President U Cape Town; Vice Chair, WUN Partnership Board (5m)
	<p>Speakers – 15 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Allan E Goodman, Director, Institute for International Education, New York • Dr Joseph B Berger, UMass Amherst, Chair WUN Global Higher Education and Research <p>Panel – 7 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Liu Yuanchun, Vice President Research, Renmin University of China • Ms Irene Braam, Executive Director, Bertelsmann Foundation, Washington DC • Prof Anthony Welch, Professor of Education, University of Sydney • Mr David Barth, Director Youth Opportunity and Learning, Ford Foundation <p>Discussion – 30 min What are the instruments for implementing teamwork and university cooperation? How can progress be assessed? Can we build on existing networks, or are new networks required around individual SDGs with broader teamwork and capacities?</p>
1230	Lunch
1330	Session 3 The Universities and Leadership in the Global Challenges of the Future Chair: Dr David Turpin , President University of Alberta (5m)
	<p>Speakers – 15 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Claudia Juech, A-VP and Managing Director, Strategic Insights, The Rockefeller Foundation • Mr Michael King, VP Global Education Industry, IBM <p>Panel – 7 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Huey-Jen Jenny Su, President, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan • Student speaker: Christopher Sauer, Maastricht University • Early Career Researcher: Assist-Prof Chrystal George Mwangi, Amherst • Prof Sir Christopher Snowden, President, University of Southampton <p>Discussion – 30 min Global higher education and research, led by the “world research universities” has a major role in education and innovation. What will be different in institutions and leaders in 2025?</p>
1500	Afternoon tea
1530	Session 4 Strategies for WUN – practical partnerships for progress Chair: Katherine Newman , Provost, University of Massachusetts Amherst (5m)
	<p>Speaker – 15 min</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-Prof Tor Halvorsen, University of Bergen Gaps in meeting the SDGs – practical predictions, strategies and actions

	<p>Panel – 7 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof David Hogg, Chair WUN Academic Advisory Group (University of Leeds) • Prof Dawn Freshwater, President, University of Western Australia <p>Discussion – 30 min The outcome of the Forum will include position and media papers on the SDGs and WUN, and the impact on international education and research. What are the changes to make WUN fit for purpose with its strategic plan 2017-20 in the uncertain international environment?</p> <p>Conclusion and next steps – 15 min</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof John Hearn, Executive Director, WUN
1645	End – closing refreshments

Expert Discussants: These include all attending WUN Presidents, leaders and experts, and those invited from the UN, agencies and stakeholders. Substantial time is allocated for discussion.

Timing: Chairs, speakers and panellists are asked to keep strictly to the times shown, so that all participants can engage in the discussion, development of consensus, and outcomes.

Confirmed: We request confirmation by 7 April for any who are not yet confirmed.

Background Papers: A selected set of 5-6 reference papers will be circulated to provide a platform for discussions and outcomes. If you wish to recommend such a paper for inclusion, please let us know to Grace Liu gliu@wun.ac.uk and send it, or the link, to us as an email attachment by 7 April

Steering Group: Members of the WUN Partnership Board Steering Group.

Operations Team: Chair – Prof John Hearn; Dr Mike Hasenmueller; A-Prof Grace Liu; Marije Nieuwenhuis.

Primary functions: program, speakers, editing, registration, venue, logistics, implementation, follow up.

Note: The venue capacity is approximately 100 people. All invitees are high level experts. Initial invitations are issued from Sydney and the evolving program is available on the website.

Guideline: Approximately 50 participants from WUN and 50 invited speakers and guests representing government, agencies, media and senior stakeholders. A major part of the program is reserved for discussion, enabling engagement by all participants. Please send any nominations for guests by 7 April.

Outline, status and guidelines at 31 March 2017:

- **Purpose:** A review of the current status, opportunities and threats, and future projections 2017-20 of the Sustainable Development Goals: strategies for building and strengthening bridges and engagement for leading international universities.
- **Focus:** Opportunities for practical actions and outcomes in research, education, mobility, impact. Consideration of strengthened current and new university networks and alliances.
- **Framework:** Monitoring and assessment of the SDGs 2017-20, taking opportunities for co-operation and mitigating the risks in fragmentation. 3-5 potential research programs for WUN.
- **Workshop Format:** Four sessions with 1-2 scene setting speaker(s), 2-3 panellist/commentators, and expert discussion towards specific outcomes.
- **Background:** Selected reference papers will be posted in mid-April, that present the current status as far as possible, so that discussions can focus on opportunities, options and solutions.
- **Bios and Abstracts:** Speakers and panellists are asked for a 200-word abstract/statement of their message, and a 200-word biography (no photographs required), **to be received by editor** gliu@wun.ac.uk and cc. mnieuwenhuis@wun.ac.uk close Friday 7 April 2017

- **Power-point: Welcome, but please keep to 1 slide per minute of presentation, and send in advance to gliu@wun.ac.uk and cc. mnieuwenhuis@wun.ac.uk**
- **Attendance:** An invitation only meeting of 100 experts (50 WUN, 50 invited guests). We respectfully request that **attendees stay for the whole meeting** as far as possible.
- **Funding (Sponsorship):** Costs and management time are significant issues in the planning and agreement of venue and participants. Core organisation and implementation are provided by WUN Secretariat, with guidance from the WUN Partnership Board Steering Group. Further sponsorship is welcome.
- **Timing and Deadlines:** The final participants list will be confirmed by **7 April** for the final program circulated (and on the website) by **Friday 14 April**.
- **Participation:** the draft program will be circulated and will be available online from mid-April.
- **Program and Preparation:** Please make sure that you consult the website, download the program, bios and statements, and selected reference papers after 14 April 2017 when final papers will be posted. **In interests of environment and cost, we do not intend to provide printed copies.**
- **Registration:** please [follow this link](#). All participants please register for the workshop and the (optional) dinner by 7 April 2017.
- **Forum Dinner:** 4th February, at the UN International Hotel. Registration required, see link above.
- **Accommodation:** Participants wishing to stay, please book your rooms [via this link](#).
- **Getting there and away:** [please see WUN website](#).

With thanks to all partners, participants and sponsors.

John Hearn, Executive Director, WUN

E: jhearn@wun.ac.uk