

**WUN Presidents Forum 2016**  
***Open Doors: European Opportunities in Research & Education***  
**Thursday, 7 April 2016**  
**Marriott Renaissance Brussels, Rue du Parnasse 19, Brussels, Belgium**

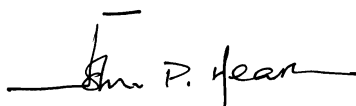
The 2016 [Worldwide Universities Network](#) (WUN) Presidents Forum will take place in Brussels at the heart of Europe, and alongside the WUN Conference & AGM 2016. The focus for this year's forum is the increasing internationalisation of knowledge through policy frameworks; the broader remit of the European Union and Europe based agencies around the world; and the fundamental research questions through which WUN and its allied partners can contribute.

WUN meets sequentially in the Asia-Pacific, Europe-Africa and Americas regions, bringing together our global knowledge partnership to focus on major regional and international challenges. In doing so, we engage with universities, business, international agencies and NGO's to align our research and education objectives to practical and policy objectives.

2016 is a special year in the global policy framework, with the early implementation of the UN Sustainability Goals; the 200-country Paris agreement of COP 21; the Chinese Belt and Road policies of President Xi Jinping; the Trans-Pacific Partnership; and the related regional North-South and South-South policies of many governments and agencies. The increased cohesion, communication and commitment of these policies provide openings for universities with the capacity and reach for innovation and improvement.

WUN has played its relevant part in these developments. For example in the adoption of non-communicable diseases in Public Health with WHO and the Sustainability Goals; the COP21 developments through our WUN Responding to Climate Change Group; the enhanced emphasis on Higher Education and economic development through the WUN Higher Education Group with OECD, British Council and Association of Commonwealth Universities; and in Understanding Cultures through our Global China and Global Africa Groups. In addition, we are implementing cross cutting themes based on our work with China, Africa, Economics, Big Data and Web Observatories.

The WUN Presidents, Vice Presidents and disciplinary experts form an international think tank in these arenas. The outcomes of these fora are published in journals and circulated to governments and agencies as evidence based options for strengthening policy and improving lives. We follow up with practical teamwork and implementation, through our strategic workshops, seed funding of new initiatives and innovations, and our global communities of scholars.



John Hearn  
Executive Director  
Worldwide Universities Network

## WUN Presidents Forum 2016

**Date:** Thursday 7 April 2016  
**Location:** Marriott Renaissance Brussels, Rue du Parnasse 19, Brussels, Belgium  
**More info:** [Forum website](#) or email Nicholas Haskins at [nhaskins@wun.ac.uk](mailto:nhaskins@wun.ac.uk)

### Program (as at 12 March 2016)

Time	Program
0700-0830	Delegates attending the WUN Conference & AGM in Maastricht will be transported by bus from Maastricht to Brussels
0830-0900	Registration & arrival tea <span style="float: right;"><i>Ballroom Foyer</i></span>
0900-0930	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Ballroom 2</i></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair: Professor Dr Martin Paul, President, Maastricht University</li> </ul> <p><b>Welcome Comments</b> (5 min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr Jeroen Lenaers, Dutch Member of European Parliament</li> </ul> <p><b>Opening Speaker</b> (15 min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Jo Ritzen, Former Dutch Minister of Education and Science <i>and</i> former President of Maastricht University <i>Universities: claim your rightful place</i></li> </ul> <p>Discussion (10 min)</p>
0930-1030	<p><b>Session 1: Research Opportunities in European Global Engagement</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Ballroom 2</i></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair: Professor Dag Rune Olsen, Rector, The University of Bergen</li> </ul> <p><b>Opening Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr Peter Dröll, Director Open Innovation and Open Science, Directorate-General Research &amp; Innovation, European Commission (10 min.)</li> <li>- Professor Jean-Pierre Bourguignon, President, European Research Council (10 min.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Dr Martin Paul, President, Maastricht University (10 min.) <i>Why European Universities need to care about global issues: a perspective from Maastricht University</i></li> <li>- Professor Hugh Brady, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Bristol (7 min.) <i>Building and Connecting Innovation Ecosystems</i></li> <li>- Professor David Turpin, President, The University of Alberta (7 min.)</li> </ul> <p>Discussion (15 min.)</p>
1030-1100	Morning tea <span style="float: right;"><i>Ballroom Foyer</i></span>
1100-1200	<p><b>Session 2: Research Priorities in International Higher Education</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>Ballroom 2</i></span></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair: Professor Stuart McCutcheon, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Auckland</li> </ul> <p><b>Opening Speaker</b> (15min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Claire Morel, Director of International Cooperation, Directorate-General of Education &amp; Culture, European Commission</li> </ul>

	<b>Panelists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor Koen Lamberts, Vice-Chancellor, The University of York (7 min.)</li> <li>- Professor Ernest Aryeetey, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Ghana (7 min.)</li> <li>- Professor Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Sydney (7 min.)</li> </ul> <p>Discussion (20 min.)</p>	
1200-1230	<b>Structured Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair: Sir Alan Langlands, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Leeds</li> </ul>	<i>Ballroom 2</i>
1230-1240	<b>Summary &amp; Next Steps 2016-17</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professor John Hearn, Executive Director, WUN</li> </ul>	<i>Ballroom 2</i>
1245-1300	<b>Group Photo</b>	
1300-1430	<b>Lunch</b>	<i>Ballroom 1</i>
1430	Buses depart for Maastricht & Brussels Airport	

\*Program subject to change

**Important note to delegates**

WUN has arranged shuttle buses to take delegates to Brussels Airport, Dusseldorf Airport, Amsterdam Airport, or return to Maastricht conference hotels.