



**WUN Presidents Forum:  
THE UN 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 2 March 2017 WORKING DRAFT 5, Speakers and topics TBC*

**Thursday 4 May 2017**

**WUN Conference Opening Dinner** (informal and optional)

Time: 18.00h drinks for 19.00h start. Invited guests please register for the Forum and dinner [via this link](#).

Venue: Hotel ONE UN New York, 1 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA

**Friday 5 May 2017**

<b>0830</b>	<b>Registration</b> TBC
	Coffee and tea provided through the meeting
<b>0900</b>	<b>Welcome and Objectives</b>
	<b>Prof Joseph Sung</b> , President Chinese University of Hong Kong; Chair, Partnership Board <b>Prof John Hearn</b> Executive Director WUN, Professor University of Sydney Medical School
<b>0910</b>	<b>Session 1</b> <b>The UN Sustainable Development Goals: Focus, Implementation and Delivery</b> <b>Chair: Prof Martin Paul</b> , President Maastricht University; Vice Chair, Partnership Board
	<p><b>Opening speakers – 20 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Jeffrey Sachs</b>, Director, Earth Institute Columbia University The Role of Universities in meeting the SDGs</li> <li>• <b>Speaker (TBC)</b> – United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division of Sustainable Development Implementation, monitoring and assessment of the SDGs</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel – 7 min each:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Stuart McCutcheon</b>, President, University of Auckland</li> <li>• <b>Prof Peter Mbithi</b>, President, University of Nairobi</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion –25 min</b> 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 with the SDGs in Health, Education, Environment, Cultural Understanding?</p>
<b>1030</b>	<b>Coffee</b>

<b>1100</b>	<b>Session 2</b> <b>Action plans for engagement with the SDGs – global and local, including fragile economies</b> <b>Chair: TBC</b>
	<p><b>Speakers – 15 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Allan E Goodman</b>, Director, Institute for International Education, New York</li> <li>• <b>Prof Joseph B Berger</b>, UMass Amherst, Chair WUN Global Higher Education and Research</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel – 7 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Irene Braam</b>, Executive Director, Bertelsmann Foundation, Washington DC</li> <li>• <b>Mr David Barth</b>, Ford Foundation (TBC)</li> <li>• <b>WUN President</b>, Economist? (TBC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion – 30 min</b>  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>
<b>1230</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1330</b>	<b>Session 3</b> <b>The Universities and Leadership in the Global Challenges of the Future</b> <b>Chair: Prof Joseph Sung</b> , President CUHK and Chair, WUN Partnership Board
	<p><b>Speakers – 15 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Claudia Juech</b>, A-VP and Managing Director, Strategic Insights, The Rockefeller Foundation</li> <li>• <b>Mr Michael King</b>, VP Global Education Industry, IBM</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel – 7 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Huey-Jen Jenny Su</b>, President, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan</li> <li>• <b>Prof Sir Christopher Snowden</b>, President, University of Southampton</li> <li>• <b>Student speaker</b> (TBC)</li> <li>• <b>Early Career Researcher</b> (TBC)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion – 30 min</b>  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>
<b>1500</b>	<b>Afternoon tea</b>
<b>1530</b>	<b>Session 4</b> <b>Strategies for WUN – practical partnerships for progress</b>

	<b>Chair (TBC): Provost Katherine Newman, University of Massachusetts Amherst</b>
	<p><b>Speaker – 15 min</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TBC</b> Gaps in meeting the SDGs – practical strategies and actions</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel – 7 min each</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Wang Liming</b>, Executive VP, Renmin University of China (International Think Tanks)</li> <li>• <b>Sir Alan Langlands</b>, President, University of Leeds</li> <li>• <b>Prof Ebenezer Owusu</b>, President, University of Ghana</li> <li>• <b>Prof Dawn Freshwater</b>, President, University of Western Australia</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion – 30 min</b> The outcome of the Forum will be a white paper 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>
<b>1645</b>	<b>End – closing refreshments</b>

**Expert Discussants:** We will list **here** expert discussants and guests. These could be WUN leaders and experts or those invited from the UN, agencies and stakeholders. The meeting will keep strictly to time, so that all participants can engage.

**Confirmed:** We request confirmation by 15 March for those not yet confirmed.

**Background Papers:** A selected set of 5-6 highly relevant and evidence based 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 via [jhearn@wun.ac.uk](mailto:jhearn@wun.ac.uk), cc [gliu@wun.ac.uk](mailto:gliu@wun.ac.uk) and send it, or the link, to us as an email attachment by 15 March 2017.

**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 capacity is approximately 100 people. All invitees are high level experts. Initial invitations are issues 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 the engagement of all participants.

**Outline and status at 20 February 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 scene setting speaker(s), 2-3 panellist/commentators, and expert discussion towards specific outcomes.
- **Background:** Selected reference papers will be circulated in mid March that present the current status as far as possible, so that discussions can proceed towards options and solutions.
- **Forum:** Speakers and panellists are asked for a 200-word abstract of their message, and a 200-word biography, **to be received by close Friday 17 March 2017 to be included in the program.**
- **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:** Topics and primary speakers will be invited and confirmed in Jan/Feb. All invitations should be confirmed by **Friday 17 March** in order to develop, promote and finalise the workshop. The final participants list should be confirmed by **31 March** for the final program to be circulated (and on websites) by **Friday 14 April**. Thank you for your attention and support.
- **Bios and Abstracts (200 words each, a template will be provided):** send by 15 March 2017 to A/Prof Liu via [gliu@wun.ac.uk](mailto:gliu@wun.ac.uk) (with cc to [mnieuwenhuis@wun.ac.uk](mailto:mnieuwenhuis@wun.ac.uk)).
- **Participation:** the draft program will be circulated to WUN stakeholders and selected guests and will be available online.
- **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.**
- **Discussion:** Significant time is reserved for discussion, so that all participants may engage.
- **Registration:** please [follow this link](#). All participants, please register for the workshop and the (optional dinner) as soon as possible.
- **Forum Dinner:** 4<sup>th</sup> 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

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