



Annual Report 2014 - 2015

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR



There are many challenges facing our global society, the solutions to which lie partly in the hands of researchers and universities. WUN is in an excellent position to capitalise on our collective intellectual resources in finding innovative solutions that will impact on society and improve lives. The mission of WUN is to create new opportunities for international collaboration and to enable members to extend the reach and scope of their research in order to address some of the world's most significant challenges.

Throughout the past year, WUN has grown significantly. In almost every facet, we have expanded and improved. Our network grows as we welcomed the University of Basel, the University of Ghana and the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass Amherst) to our global family. We now span 11 countries across five continents, and we will continue to seek new partners that will enhance our mutual strengths and regional diversity.

We have also created a new strategic plan to guide our efforts toward achieving real-world solutions, the results of which we have already begun to see. In addition to our Global Challenges of Responding to Climate Change, Public Health (Non-communicable Disease), Global Higher Education and Research, and Understanding Cultures, we are now developing cross-cutting themes, such as economics and big data. We recognise that we must adapt to changing global patterns and technological advancements if our research is to have impact.

In 2014-2015, WUN invested £291,471 directly into research and we continue to collaborate with respected partners such as the United Nations Foundation, World Bank, OECD and World Health Organization. Our stable of international collaborations (our Interdisciplinary Research Groups) now stands at 90, many of which have flourished into major global initiatives. This is not only a testament to the value WUN brings to the global research community, but also a promising sign for the future of our world.

In addition to supporting international research collaboration, WUN continues to focus on fostering the next generation of researchers. This year saw the launch of the WUN Summer School at the University of Western Australia, which brought together exceptional young researchers from throughout the network to tackle important issues around climate change. Our members continue to embrace our Research Mobility Programme, recognising the benefits—both personal and professional—it offers to students, early career researchers and faculty members alike.

Going forward, we will further consolidate our programs and focus on helping them to deliver outputs in publications, external funding and societal impact. We will consolidate our existing partners and programs and expand our membership into new regions in Asia and South America in order to build a network as diverse as it is robust.

As Chair of WUN, I am truly proud of what we have achieved this year and I am pleased to present to you WUN's 2014-2015 Annual Report.

Max Price
Chair, WUN Partnership Board
Vice-Chancellor, University of Cape Town



INTRODUCTION FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am glad to report a year of solid progress and achievement in the ambitions and activities of WUN. These include the Governance, Membership, the four Global Challenge programs, 90 interdisciplinary research groups, over 2000 researchers, the mobility programs for established and emerging researchers; and engagement programs with national and international agencies.

We welcome three new Partners, in the University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Basel, and University of Ghana, all of whom bring new strengths, perspective and reach to WUN. The Partnership Board and Academic Advisory Group have carried out extensive research in further building the Network with peers to improve strengths in research and education, along with geographic diversity to be truly worldwide. The membership now at 19 will not go beyond 25.

After extensive consultations across WUN, the Board has approved our strategic plan for 2015-17, giving us guidelines and targets, while retaining flexibility and fleetness to adapt to changing conditions. WUN is an innovative experimental laboratory, pioneering areas of future internationalisation in higher education and research. These are relevant to major global challenges that cannot be overcome by single individuals or institutions.

During this year we implemented a Sustainability Plan 2013-18, with added support from the Board, focused on strengthening and bringing through competitive bids from the “WUN Top Ten” fundable programs. This takes work in matching demand and supply with international agencies and foundations, and in fostering the keynote programs of WUN that deliver new knowledge and impact.

As we move to 2015-16, we review our future directions and options, allowing a process of continuous evolution and innovation as a leading network of international research universities, along with our 200 cooperating “WUN Plus” Associates who are invited to participate according to their talent, relevance and enthusiasm for WUN research and education programs.

We thank every individual who engages and contributes to WUN in its governance, strategy and quality review, coordination and administration. We are grateful to those who have served our leadership, including Vice Chair and previous Chair Indira Samarasekera and new Vice Chair 2015-16 and Chair 2016-18 Joseph Sung of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

We thank those Presidents who move on this year, including Don Nutbeam of Southampton and Sir Eric Thomas of Bristol, who served as Chair for two periods as WUN was being established. Both have contributed enormously to WUN, and both emphasise that “you get back what you put in”, perhaps the core message for return on investment from opportunity, engagement and enjoyment.

John Hearn
Executive Director, Worldwide Universities Network
Professor of Physiology, University of Sydney Medical School

ACADEMIC ADVISORY GROUP



The WUN Academic Advisory Group (AAG) devoted 2014 to bedding down the Global Challenges, developing cross-cutting themes to provide new modes of engagement for partners, and addressing new activities that were suggested at the Annual General Meeting in Cape Town. The network is now pleasantly growing and the spread of universities across the globe is providing significant opportunities for us to address the Global Challenges with a truly global capability. All members have actively participated in lively discussions around our research and its impact, and have provided new and diverse insights into the challenges facing modern research universities.

The AAG consists of senior academic staff from each of the WUN universities. Its role is to provide advice to the Executive Director and the Partnership Board on a range of functions within the network and to assist the WUN Coordinators and the General Manager on key WUN initiatives. The AAG member is tasked with providing academic leadership at their institution to ensure the success of the activities of the network and the alignment of these activities with their own university strategies.

A major focus of the AAG is enhancing each partner's global reputation through the quality and impact of WUN's academic efforts and to develop global capability for important problems facing the planet. The AAG once again ran the annual Research Development Fund (RDF) programme and included the Global Challenge leaders in this year's evaluation process to ensure that successful grants aligned with Global Challenge priorities. A number of the successful grants were made to groups that cut across more than one Global Challenge, demonstrating the true interdisciplinary strengths that WUN is able to bring to bear.

The idea of working across Global Challenges has led to a number of cross-cutting initiatives, and in 2014 the University of Rochester hosted a workshop on Big Data, the first of the cross-cutting themes. Many member universities sent representatives to this workshop and those who participated commented on its value. A number of members will now develop collaborations using Big Data in the Global Challenges, as well as in shared discipline strengths such as Astronomy.

There were two further initiatives this year that have significant potential for development: the first is the opportunity to develop Global Platforms for research, and under leadership from the University of Bristol we have identified a network of partner farms and field stations that could address truly global questions. The second was the WUN Summer School, the inaugural version of which was hosted at the University of Western Australia in January 2015. The Summer School brought together graduates across the WUN partnership for an intensive period of research on climate change and expert advice on the preparation of research publications.

For the past three years, I have had the honour of serving as Chair of the AAG. I would like to thank the AAG Steering Group for their dedication, the WUN Secretariat for their support, and the Coordinators Group for their valuable advice.

I am confident that WUN is going from strength to strength and that the AAG serves the collective good with integrity and real collegiality.

Robyn Owens
Chair, WUN Academic Advisory Group
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), The University of Western Australia

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Reputation

WUN continues to develop as a leading network of international peer research universities. WUN is invited increasingly to partner and participate in global fora with agencies and governments, bringing evidence-based policy options and solutions.

Research

The focus of WUN research is regularly reviewed for quality, relevance and translation, in public health, climate and food, higher education and cultural understanding.

Relationships

The 19 partners of WUN engage with WUN Plus (WUN+) members and stakeholders to source the best global talent, create opportunities that accelerate internationalisation, and build sustainable teams.

Resources

As a result of its track record of success in innovation and application, WUN is steadily increasing its productivity and success in attracting resources for its operations.

Reforms

WUN aspires to serve as an experimental laboratory for internationalisation in higher education and research, building a model of the collaborative world university with strong governance and delivery.



2014-15 IN NUMBERS

90

Interdisciplinary
Research
Groups



conferences/
strategic workshops

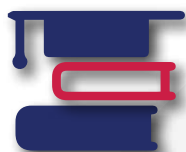


16

IRGs
completed and retired

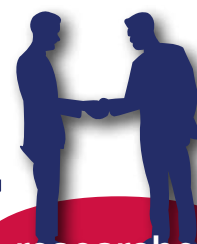
158

academic publications



2,107

researchers



25

engagements
in policy development



4

Global Challenges



文化



42

funding grants from external
organisations equalling

£10,538,665

A world leading research university network, tackling global challenges through international collaboration.

WUN is a global network driving international research collaboration and developing research talent. Our membership spans 19 universities from 11 countries on 5 continents. We foster 90 active research programs, engage over 2,000 researchers and students, and work with government, international agencies and industry.

We exist to find solutions to some of society's most significant challenges and to improve quality of life. Our research is focussed on four Global Challenges:

- Responding to Climate Change
- Public Health (Non-communicable Disease)
- Global Higher Education and Research
- Understanding Cultures

We take pride in being an experimental laboratory at the frontier of internationalisation.

WUN is committed to:

- Research that is innovative and makes a difference
- Creating opportunities for established and emerging talent
- Attracting resources to sustain our world-class teams
- Creating access and advantage for our members

This approach is backed up by strong governance and rigorous quality management.

WUN is building on its achievements and teamwork to further strengthen relevance and capacity. We present here our vision, priorities and key strategies that will guide our network's development and future success.

VISION

As a leading international higher education and research network, we will be a force in developing innovative solutions to some of the world's most significant challenges.

MISSION

WUN draws upon the combined intellectual power and resources of its members to create opportunities in international research and graduate education. It partners with government, international organisations and industry to stretch ambitions and develop the next generation of leaders.

VALUES

WUN's values underpin our approach to maximising the network's core strengths.

DEVELOP	NURTURE	INNOVATE	COLLABORATE	IMPACT
WUN actively develops our global research alliance and education programs to meet our objectives.	WUN nurtures and invests resources in the intellectual strengths and priorities of our members.	WUN seeks and instigates innovation in knowledge management and educational exchange.	WUN promotes opportunities that accelerate internationalisation for global collaborations between universities and with government, international organisations and industry on issues of global significance.	WUN exists to make a difference. Our research produces new knowledge that influences policy and impacts society to improve lives.

OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

1	Strengthen and grow our university network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and maintain a dynamic portfolio of research and education programs in alignment with WUN members' priorities. • Strategically grow the membership as a network of peer universities with mutual strengths and regional diversity. • Build ownership and leadership within WUN to increase collaboration, commitment and sense of community.
2	Foster influential research communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus our efforts on four <i>Global Challenges</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Responding to Climate Change (food security, urbanisation, oceanography); – Public Health (lifecourse approaches to obesity, heart disease, diabetes); – Global Higher Education and Research (access and equity, new technologies); – Understanding Cultures (migration, digital futures, ageing). • Incorporate cross-cutting themes in big data, macroeconomics, and regional programs on China and Africa into our <i>Global Challenge</i> programs. • Strengthen leadership and accountability to ensure quality and delivery.
3	Nurture research talent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create opportunities for the engagement and career development of talented researchers at the postdoctoral, postgraduate and undergraduate level in international research collaborations. • Facilitate the mobility of students and academic staff. • Promote equity for researchers in our programs.
4	Enhance the WUN profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position WUN as a recognised thought leader in our areas of expertise, engaging the WUN Presidents and experts as an international think-tank and as policy advisors. • Increase the power of the "WUN voice" in an ambassadorial and lobbying role. • Strengthen the WUN brand and profile with internal and external audiences, ensuring WUN is recognised for the vast potential of its intellectual resources.

THE FUTURE LIES IN OUR STRENGTHS

The landscape of global higher education and research is fast changing, with a revolution on the horizon. WUN is adaptive and uniquely placed to provide distinct advantage to our members in preparing for these changes. This strength will allow our community to lead strategic research that improves the quality of life around the world. That is our future.



Conference & AGM 2015

The annual WUN Conference and AGM 2015 took place at The Chinese University of Hong Kong over six days from 25-30 April. Held each year at one of WUN's member universities, the Conference and AGM consists of a number of conferences, meetings and symposia. It brings together the network's leadership, as well as researchers, experts, administrators, practitioners and policymakers, to discuss the direction of the network and issues related to WUN's four Global Challenges.

In addition to the annual AGM and Presidents Forum, three academic conferences were held on the themes of Migration, Understanding Global Digital Cultures and Healthy Ageing. WUN's Global China Group also hosted the inaugural China Foreign Direct Investment Symposium. Many longstanding members from the network were present throughout these events, as well as representatives from WUN's newest members—the University of Basel, the University of Ghana and the University of Massachusetts (Amherst).



WUN Migration Conference 2015

The WUN Migration Conference 2015 explored the issue of migration through the lens of WUN's four Global Challenges in order to facilitate discourse that might contribute to the Post-2015 Development Agenda discussion. The conference opened with a keynote address by Dr Frankaczko, Head of the Migration Research Division at the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), who identified the lack of available data as a key issue of migration. Following the keynote were four sessions on Migration and Identity; Health of Migrants; Climate Change Impacts on Habitation; and Global Talent Flows. Several issues were raised, including those around big data; internal versus international migration; the responsibilities of host/origin countries; transnational families; bringing together modeling on climate change and health; international student mobility; and responsible migration curricula. Resulting from the conference, a special issue of the *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* will be produced to coincide with the WUN Conference and AGM 2016 in Maastricht.

WUN Understanding Global Digital Cultures Conference 2015

The WUN Understanding Global Digital Cultures Conference 2015 explored the emergence and development of global digital cultures through a number of themes, including social media, cultural identity and politics. The two-day event included four keynote speeches, as well as 12 sessions where participants presented their research on a variety of topics related to digital culture. The first keynote speaker was Professor HU Yong from the School of Journalism and Communication at Peking University who discussed censorship in China, noting that the decentralisation and anonymity of the internet has democratised public discussion of politics and social issues. Professor Saskia Sassen from Columbia



University and the London School of Economics and Political Science, argued that what happens in interactive domains cannot simply be reduced to the technical features such as access and design. Instead, a larger economy of meaning gets mobilised and those meanings are largely shaped by non-digital settlers. Dame Wendy Hall, Professor of Computer Science at the University of Southampton, discussed the concept of 'web observatories', arguing that a systems view of the web that shows its ecosystem, growth and evolution is required in order to sustain it. The conference concluded with a keynote speech on global digital networking by Lee Rainie, Director of the Pew Research Center's *Internet and American Life Project*, who argued that personal networks have become repositories of trust as the public's trust increasingly shifts away from major institutions. A selection of the best papers from the conference will be published in a special issue of the international journal *Information, Communication & Society*.

WUN Public Health Global Challenge Conference on Healthy Ageing 2015

The WUN Public Health Global Challenge Conference on Healthy Ageing 2015 was an opportunity for academics, agency stakeholders and government to explore collaborative opportunities in lifecourse research, since there is substantial evidence linking early life factors and adult lifestyle factors, which contribute to the risk of developing non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Dr John Beard, Director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course at the World Health Organization, delivered a keynote address via video, and two plenary sessions were held throughout the day on Developmental Factors Influencing

Healthy Ageing and Promoting Healthy Ageing in Adults. There were also six breakout meetings on the themes of Mechanisms and Biomarkers; Economic and Policy Implications; Social and Wider Factors; and Interventions. The conference identified three main focus areas for the future: sharing methods and measures (including economic); comparative studies of exposures and outcomes; and provision of care (including withdrawal of care). Secondary focus areas included ageing policies; social connectedness (meta-synthesis); and the relationship between environment and ageing. In addition, three targeted workshops were held to advance WUN research programs in public health migration, the resilience of youth and public health workers, and the role of school education in reducing NCD risk factors. A public health research funding specialist was present throughout these workshops to assist the groups in positioning their research for significant external funding.

WUN Annual General Meeting 2015

Following the academic conferences, the WUN leadership turned its focus to the business of the network at its Annual General Meeting. The first day of the AGM focussed on the Global Challenges, with meetings of each of the Global Challenge Steering Groups, followed by a plenary at which Global Challenge Chairs shared the highlights and achievements of the previous year, as well as future focus areas and action plans. Going forward, *Responding to Climate Change* will focus on building global research platforms; the standardisation of techniques for data analysis and evaluation; and access. *Global Higher Education and Research (GHEAR)* will focus on its Delphi Survey and meta-analysis; data mining around



student performance and employability; and impact in regard to society and academic management practice. *Public Health* will continue to focus on the themes of migration, resilience, and schools, and will add the lifecourse approach to healthy ageing as a key theme. *Understanding Cultures* will develop cross-cutting themes in economics and social justice, and further develop key projects such as the Global China Group, International Indigenous Research Network, Migration, and Networking Young Citizens.

The second day of the AGM included meetings of WUN's Partnership Board, Academic Advisory Group (AAG) and Coordinators Group. The AGM culminated in a plenary session where all three groups agree future directions for the coming year.

WUN Presidents Forum 2015

The WUN Conference and AGM 2015 concluded with the fifth annual Presidents Forum, held at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen. This year's forum, titled "*Global and Local: Reform Agendas for Higher Education in China and the World*", brought together

university leaders from across WUN and China to discuss strategy and policy priorities, as well as potential partnerships in research and education between the participating universities. The forum was co-chaired by Dr Max Price, Chair of the Partnership Board and Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, and Professor Joseph J.Y. Sung, Vice Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The forum began with a welcome address by Dr Max Price, followed by Professor Xu Yangsheng, President of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen. A keynote speech was then delivered by Professor Yang Fujia, President of the University of Nottingham Ningbo, on his insights into China's position on higher education reform and opportunities to take part in China's higher education development. Following was a panel discussion and open-floor discussion on advancing higher education internationalisation through partnership and collaboration. Several presidents commented on the state of higher education in their respective regions, the specific challenges they face at their institutions and potential opportunities for collaboration with China.

The forum concluded that belonging to a network such as WUN can facilitate these collaborations significantly. WUN Executive Director John Hearn closed the forum, saying that the half-day discussion was highly successful in raising a number of key issues, which the Partnership Board will work to address as both a think tank and exploratory team. The forum was also successful in building closer bridges to China, which WUN will explore in the coming months.





WUN Future Directions 2015-16

Each year the WUN governance groups meet for strategic planning sessions of the Partnership Board, Academic Advisory Group, Global Challenge Steering Groups and the Coordinators Group. This year in Hong Kong we gave more time for interactions between these groups, which resulted in increased cohesion and teamwork for adopting our future directions. The basis for these discussions was through consultations and reviews through the year, in visits to all of our partners, and in meetings with the researchers and research students engaged in the core business of WUN.

The WUN Partnership

The Board approved policies that will see WUN grow to a maximum of 25 members. In addressing the appropriate profile of our global research and education teams, that achieve more than the capacity of individual institutions, we target institutions that complete the global reach of WUN. We continue to build disciplinary strengths around our four Global Challenge pillars and the cross-cutting themes that integrate WUN, while enabling links with WUN-Plus Associates from academia, business, international agencies, governments and NGO's as appropriate for our 90 international, interdisciplinary research groups (IRGs).

Research Programs

WUN continues to focus on four Global Challenges in Responding to Climate Change and food security; Public Health in non-communicable diseases; Higher Education and Research reform; and Understanding Cultures in several vital areas, including migration, ageing, indigenous development and digital futures. Cross cutting themes for these pillars are in Big Data, Economics, and regional programs of the

Global China Group and the Global Africa Group, currently in formation. A special Student Mobility Working Group, formed two years ago, was tasked to explore an expansion of activities for early career researchers, graduate students, and senior research track undergraduates.

Sustainability


The Board endorsed a third year of contributions to the WUN Sustainability Fund, designed to accelerate the competitiveness of leading WUN programs that are ready to develop major bids for funding from national and international agencies. A "WUN Top Ten Fundable Bids" list was endorsed. Expert bid managers have been engaged to assist the research teams in supply and demand matching with agencies and foundations. The fund is managed by the Executive Director, with assistance in development and review by the Global Challenge steering groups and the Academic Advisory Board.

Global Academy Jobs

The Board endorsed the joint venture of WUN as a 10% equity partner. The project is breaking even after 3 years, and should provide an income stream to boost WUN research and education programs. The program also offers WUN partners a highly discounted and automated access to global experience, mobility and jobs opportunities. The joint venture is reviewed annually and will continue on its current basis until April 2017, renewable subject to performance. New members will be offered the option to join the program at appropriate levels of investment and return.

The Board recorded thanks to all those members of the WUN community whose intellect, energy and commitment deliver our success.

John Hearn
Executive Director, Worldwide Universities Network



Global Challenge Responding to Climate Change

The response to climate change has rapidly intensified as world leaders recognise the need for strong and effective action to address this immense threat. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has now reached close to US\$9.6 billion in pledges, just short of the UN's initial US\$10 billion target, and the adoption of a protocol with legal force will be a key objective of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris later this year. Collaborative, international research has greatly contributed to this progress, and will continue to play a key role in achieving sustainable solutions going forward.

The WUN Responding to Climate Change Global Challenge fosters innovative, multidisciplinary research into the scientific, cultural, health and social dimensions of climate change. Key research themes include the drivers and pressures of climate change; the impacts on systems affected by climate change; and managing a response to climate change. Emphasis is placed on identifying climatic and societal response thresholds to make our research useful to stakeholders, and researchers work with policy-makers and practitioners to deliver research-driven outcomes at the global, regional and local level.

Global Farm Platforms for Optimisation of Grazing Livestock Production Systems

Ruminant livestock are likely to remain a vitally important sector of global agricultural production as climate change and increasing population put pressure on food security. Coupled to this, an increased demand for cereals has made them less attractive as animal feed at both a social and economic level, while increasing wealth in developing nations has resulted in a greater demand for animal protein. Hence an emphasis on ruminant farming, since these animals are capable of converting feed unsuitable for human consumption into high-value protein.



Led by Professor Mark Eisler and Professor Michael Lee from the University of Bristol, a team of WUN experts is currently exploring potential strategies for the sustainable intensification of ruminant farming in real-world production systems, while minimising the environmental impacts associated with land use change. Their goal is to form a global network of model farm platforms across

six continents—in regions which exemplify diverse livestock production systems—to host innovative research into grazing systems and disseminate findings among local farmers.

“The challenges for future farming are complex and require interdisciplinary solutions that can only be developed and demonstrated on real-world farms. In contrast to conventional research stations, model farms enable researchers to define and implement ‘ideal’ farming systems that are economically, environmentally and socially sustainable in their local contexts,” says Professor Eisler.

The project includes the University of Alberta, the University of Bristol, the University of Leeds, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Sydney, the University of Western Australia and Zhejiang University. It also includes several WUN+ partners: Bahir-Dar University (Ethiopia), Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agropecuaria (Uruguay), Kansas State University (USA), Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (India), Massey University (New Zealand), Rothamsted Research (UK), Small Scale Livestock and Livelihoods Program (Malawi), and the University of Wisconsin (USA).

Since receiving a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant in 2013, the group has been highly successful. In addition to hosting several workshops throughout Australia, China, India, the UK and the US, it has also produced a position paper that was published in the March 2014 edition of *Nature*. It has also attracted over £1M in external funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and the Global Innovation Initiative, with a further £24M of 2-stage funding bids to the UK Government and the EU having made the second round.

Going forward, the group will continue to use the Global Farm Platform to tackle challenges confronting sustainable ruminant production and promote their adoption. They will also use it to enhance opportunities for the development of large transnational research proposals, the collection and sharing of big data, scientific exchanges, the application of cutting-edge technologies and the training of early career researchers.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Position paper on the future of livestock production systems published in *Nature*, March 2014.
- Hosted Global Sustainable Farming Systems Workshops in Australia, China, India, the UK and the US.
- Awarded £680K by the BBSRC and £250K by the Global Innovation Initiative.
- £24M in 2-stage funding bids progressed to stage two.
- Developed a Statement of Intent pledging commitment to the Global Farm Platform, which has been signed by Bristol, Leeds, UWA, Wisconsin-Madison, Zhejiang and Rothamsted Research.

Ocean Eddies in a Changing Climate: Understanding the Impact on Coastal Climates and Worldwide Fisheries Production

Climate change will significantly alter the earth's ocean current systems, leading to changes in fisheries productivity and localised climatic change for coastal communities. This is important since fisheries worldwide are valued at US\$80 billion a year, provide nearly three billion people with 15% of their animal protein needs, and support incomes for nearly 8% of the world's population. Ocean eddy systems (meanderings of ocean currents) are especially important in generating nutrient-rich upwellings or retaining nutrients which can drive productivity in ocean ecosystems.

While climate change research has largely focused on major oceanographic processes, it will be the finer changes in ocean eddy systems off coasts that will have a major influence in determining the direct impacts of climate change on coastal systems. Led by Professor Andrew Jeffs from the University of Auckland, *Ocean Eddies in a Changing Climate – Understanding the Impact on Coastal Climates and Worldwide Fisheries Production* aims to improve our understanding of how ocean eddy systems operate. Specifically, it explores

how ocean eddies will respond to climate change and the effects those changes are likely to cause in coastal environments. To date, the group's results indicate that changes in the local structure within eddy systems may play a more important role in fisheries productivity than previously thought.

"Improving our understanding of the functioning of ocean eddy systems is of enormous importance in determining how they will respond under changed global climate conditions. This is especially important for the economic and environmental benefits provided to humankind by these ocean systems, such as sustaining valuable fisheries and stabilising the local climate in coastal cities," says Professor Jeffs.

The project involves the University of Auckland, the University of Western Australia and the University of Cape Town, as well as several WUN+ partners from around the world. In 2012, the group received a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant, which has helped to secure further external funding, including participation in NZ\$36M funding from New Zealand's Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment National Science Challenges, and AU\$5M from the Australian Research Council (ARC).

In September 2014, the group hosted a workshop on South-East Australian eddy systems and key fisheries at the Sydney Institute of Marine Science, which involved both academics and technical personnel. It has also generated an extensive range of publications and has been an influential voice in discussions around fisheries and aquaculture with organisations such as Fisheries NSW and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).



The group has further offshore and coastal sampling missions planned for 2015, with the distinct aim of better understanding the link between the productivity of ocean eddy systems and important coastal fisheries. However, since offshore oceanographic research requires substantial resources, the group will also continue to pursue collaborative research funding opportunities. While it is possible to undertake studies of ocean systems using remote samples, such as from satellites, the group believes first hand observation from research vessels is essential for a more detailed understanding of our oceans. In the long term, they will continue to expand the collaboration and focus on new ocean areas around the world.

Climate Change in the Media

The media play an important role in shaping beliefs, attitudes, values and behaviours in society. Through their coverage, they have the power to frame public discourse and promote particular ideologies. This is not insignificant, since these preferred narratives can ultimately influence both national and international policy-making.

Climate Change in the Media aims to provide an in-depth empirical analysis of the interpretation, dissemination and consumption of texts about global warming and environmental sustainability. Led by Associate Professor Meng Ji from the University of Western Australia, it focuses on how climate change policy is reported on in the national media of Australia, Britain, China and Japan—four countries with significant influence on the development of international environmental policies. The intended long-term outcome of the project is to influence global policy development that will lead to international collaboration on the actions required to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

“This project will make an original, significant and timely contribution to contemporary cultural analysis by identifying contrastive social and language patterns in the media reporting of environmental issues and climate change. The comparative cultural analyses will shed an illuminating light on the complexity and the multi-centric nature of global social consensus built around key social issues and the link to the latest phase of globalisation,” says Professor Ji.

“With a particular focus on climate change policy in national media reporting, we will identify and analyse how local and global issues and concerns are embedded in and frame public discourse, promoting, sustaining or inhibiting change. The multinational research team will provide important comparative insights into the ways diverse media, political and economic systems negotiate environmentally sustainable behaviour and policy-making.”

KEY OUTCOMES

- Over 10 research papers published.
- Hosted workshop on South-East Australian eddy systems and key fisheries at the Sydney Institute of Marine Science, September 2014.
- Key component of award of NZ\$36M from New Zealand's Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment for Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge, 2014.
- Awarded AU\$5M from the Australian Research Council (ARC), 2013.

The project involves three WUN universities, including the University of Leeds, the University of Sheffield and the University of Western Australia. It also includes the Communication University of China, the University of Tasmania and the University of Tokyo as WUN+ partners. So far, the group has held two international workshops in Perth, Australia and Tokyo, Japan. They plan to meet again in Tokyo in late 2015 to further discuss relevant research issues, which will lead to a monograph published by Routledge. In the meantime, they are working on a cross-national analytical framework by drawing upon research expertise from computational linguistics, discourse analysis, international politics and environmental media studies.

In 2013, the group was awarded a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant to help drive the project forward. It has recently secured two major Discovery Project grants from the Australian Research Council (ARC) totalling over AU\$700K, as well as £8K from the Toshiba International Foundation. Going forward, it plans to produce more joint publications and apply for more competitive funding. It also plans to sustain the collaboration through the provision of training to PhD and postdoctoral researchers.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Held two international workshops in Perth, Australia and Tokyo, Japan.
- Awarded two major Discovery Project grants from the Australian Research Council totalling over AU\$700K (2015-2018).
- Seven research papers published or forthcoming, as well as a monograph to be published by Routledge.



Global Challenge Global Higher Education and Research

The higher education sector is in a state of flux as the increasing flow of students across borders, the competition for academic talent, and the rise of new technologies change the way that universities operate and how societies view the role of higher education. Key issues include how to provide equal access to education and ensure affordability; how changing patterns of public/private collaboration affect the research and educational missions of universities; how technology mediates and advances research and higher education; and the changing roles of academics, students and administrators under the conditions of globalisation.

The WUN Global Higher Education and Research (GHEAR) Global Challenge seeks to understand the sources, mechanisms and social structures that give rise to today's higher education and research challenges, and to develop practical strategies for reform. Our collaborative work actively contributes to the global conversation on higher education and research, informing universities, conferences, international agencies, policy frameworks and the media. The research theme for 2014/15 is **Access and Equity in Higher Education: Economic and Social Outcomes of Diversity and Globalisation**.

World-class Universities, Publication and Research Assessment: Rethinking the Mission of Higher Education in the Global Age

Over the past 20 years, many national funding systems have adopted common schemes to assess research productivity in publically-funded universities. As a result, publication counts are now one of the key measures of an institution's research productivity globally. This is somewhat problematic, since it can result in researchers neglecting important local topics in favour of those with wider international appeal.

World-class Universities, Publication and Research Assessment: Rethinking the Mission of Higher Education in the Global Age examines trends in academic publishing to understand how scholars in professional schools and disciplinary departments focusing on local knowledge have been incentivised—or disincentivised—to conduct certain types of research. It documents possible shifts in the focus of academic publications in order to understand whether researchers increased their coverage of international topics, and whether there was any corresponding reduction in coverage of national or local ones.

"In many countries with centralised research funding, journals are classified as either 'domestic' or 'international'. By awarding local journals lower assessment scores, this classification may have the

unintended consequence of discouraging research that is inherently difficult to communicate to English-language readers," says Professor Jun Li from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, who leads the project. "This project contributes to both international policy implication and theory-building by providing better understanding of such a problematic phenomenon with its historical trends documented empirically over the past two decades."

Included in the project are the University of Auckland, the University of Bristol, the University of Cape Town, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Sydney and Zhejiang University. It also involves four WUN+ partners: the National Chengchi University (Taiwan), Osaka University (Japan), Peking University (China) and the University of Tokyo (Japan). The project will examine the attempts made in each country/society, if any, to adapt global indexes of productivity to local needs.

Following the award of a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant in 2013, the group went on to hold a workshop, hosted by the Department of Educational Administration and Policy at CUHK, which brought together 30 participants from across the network.

Five leading scholars in the field were invited to deliver keynote speeches and presentations were made by the WUN research team. In February 2015, The Osaka Initiatives Forum on “Global University Rankings and Excellence Indicators Reexamined: Realities, Challenges and Prospects”, co-sponsored by WUN and organised by the Institute for Academic Initiatives, was held at Osaka University. Once again, the WUN research team presented their findings, in addition to delivering keynote speeches. The event, sponsored by the Top Global University Project by Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), attracted more than 120 participants from around the country.

To date, the group has produced eight publications, including a special issue on the future of education research journals in the Education Policy Analysis Archives, with two more forthcoming in 2015. They have also submitted a proposal for a second special issue to Higher Education Policy and are planning a third event to enhance their collaboration throughout the network.

KEY OUTCOMES

- The Osaka Initiatives Forum on ‘Global University Rankings and Excellence Indicators Reexamined: Realities, Challenges and Prospects’ held at Osaka University, February 2015.
- Workshop hosted by the Department of Educational Administration and Policy at CUHK, July 2014.
- Special issue titled *The Future of Education Research Journals* published in the Education Policy Analysis Archives in 2014, with a proposal for a second submitted to Higher Education Policy.

Widening Participation: ‘First in Family’ Students Succeeding in Universities

There is considerable research into factors affecting participation and achievement in university education. However, less documented are the factors that influence the success of those who are first in their family to enrol in university (FIFU). The limited research shows that FIFU are at risk of failure and of dropping out, and that negotiating cultural obstacles involves a redefining of FIFU students’ identities.

Widening Participation: ‘First in the Family’ students succeeding in universities is based on the belief that every student with potential deserves the chance to succeed in higher education. It aims to develop a culturally appropriate methodology that provides evidence about the multiple variables affecting FIFU success; identify good practice for university teaching and student support systems towards enhanced FIFU participation and achievement; and promotes

critical innovative thinking about this challenge that is experienced among diverse populations in higher education globally. This is particularly relevant in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the US, since each nation has set ambitious time-bounded higher education agendas through to 2020.

“FIFU is about pioneers, those who are first in their families to study at university. Our approach is from a strength-based and global perspective to tell multiple narratives of how this group experiences higher education,” says Dr ‘Ema Wolfgramm-Foliaki, who leads the collaboration with fellow colleague from the University of Auckland, Associate Professor Lorri Santamaría.

The project involves researchers from the University of Auckland, the University of Cape Town, the University of Sydney and the University of Western Australia. It also involves the University of California, Berkeley (USA) and Thompson Rivers University (Canada) as WUN+ partners. In 2013, the group received a WUN Research Development (RDF) grant to further develop the collaboration and the first FIFU meeting was held at the University of Sydney in March 2014. The team has since gone on to present their research at Victoria University in Melbourne and the Australian Association for Research in Education in Brisbane. Most recently, the group held its second meeting, a symposium and writing retreat hosted by the University of Sydney.

So far, the group has produced a chapter titled *Together to the table: How to apply critical leadership in cross-cultural international research*, which will be published in a book co-edited by Associate Professor Santamaría in 2015. Each of the FIFU sites has also engaged research assistants who are of Indigenous descent as part of the group’s mission to build capacity within the communities they work with. The group is currently seeking funding to further develop the project and enable continued collaboration.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Symposium and writing retreat hosted by the University of Sydney, January 2015.
- Chapter titled *Together to the table: How to apply critical leadership in cross-cultural international research* to be published by Routledge, 2015.
- Presented research co-authored by FIFU team at Victoria University (Melbourne) and the Australian Association for Research in Education (Brisbane), 2014.
- Symposium at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (ISSOTL) Conference in October 2015, to be followed by a FIFU team meeting and writing retreat in Melbourne.

The Worldwide Challenge of English

The global use of English is one of the most dramatic linguistic phenomena of our time. English is increasingly used throughout the world as the medium for instruction in contexts where it is not the primary national language or even an official language. Meanwhile, other languages are used and studied less and less. This has created a situation where the use of English is not only desirable, but also increasingly viewed as a prerequisite for success in the 21st century.

Led by Professor Andrew Linn from the University of Sheffield, The Worldwide Challenge of English investigates the challenges facing language users and practitioners when operating through the medium of non-native English. It evolved from an earlier project titled '*English in Europe: Opportunity or Threat?*', which examined the changing role and uses of English across Europe in a range of domains of language use. The Worldwide Challenge of English aims to extend these debates beyond the European context, focussing on the experience of teachers and learners on the one hand and translators on the other.

"The biggest language challenge in the world today is English. School children are expected to learn it, and the need to succeed in English is often fired by parental ambition and the requirements for entry into higher education, no matter what the proposed course of study. Once at university or college, students across the globe are increasingly finding that their teaching is being delivered through the medium of English, making the learning process more onerous. Universities unquestioningly strive for a greater level of internationalization in teaching and in research, and this is in turn equated with greater use of English by non-native speakers," says Professor Linn in the preface to the English in Europe book series.

The project involves the University of Auckland, the University of Bergen, the University of Bristol, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Leeds, the University of Sheffield, the University of Southampton,

the University of Western Australia and Zhejiang University. It also involves WUN+ partners in China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Spain and Sweden.

In 2013, the group was awarded a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant, which allowed them to host a two-day workshop at the University of Sheffield. There participants shared their existing research findings, created an international network including non-academic partners (from both education and the translation profession) and planned two projects as the initial basis for funding applications. The first was submitted to the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in November and will, if successful, bring together critical voices concerning the use of English as an international language with those sectors underpinned by an assumption that English in international contexts is an unproblematic norm. The second project is a more ambitious ethnographic study of the 'hidden hand' of English in the international university, with WUN universities participating as both research partners and laboratories. The project aims to understand the impact of the need to use English on underexplored communities within the international university, such as administrators, teachers and cleaning staff.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Hosted two-day workshop at the University of Sheffield to share existing findings, create a forum for early career researchers, develop a network of academic and non-academic partners, and plan two projects as the basis for funding applications.
- Submitted a bid for the project *Markets of English* to the AHRC for £45K (outcome pending).
- £2 million grant proposal to the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in development.





Global Challenge Public Health (Non-communicable Disease)

Despite public health crises like the spread of Ebola throughout West Africa, it is non-communicable diseases (NCDs)—cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases, cancer and diabetes—that are responsible for over 60 per cent deaths worldwide. The areas most affected are low and middle-income countries, where the heavy burden of healthcare drives millions into poverty each year and consequently impedes economic development. This poses a serious threat to human health and productivity, as deaths by NCDs are expected to rise by 17 per cent over the next decade.

The WUN Public Health Global Challenge brings together some of the world's leading experts to explore socioeconomic, cultural and behavioural solutions across the life-course. Research focuses on three themes: the health of families and migrants across the life-course; health resilience in adolescents in different cultural contexts; and schools as a setting for reducing risk factors related to NCDs. Links are sought to major global initiatives such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and special attention is paid to population-level and individual approaches that increase access to education, promote health literacy and empower women.

Health Literacy Network

Lower levels of health literacy are increasingly linked to higher mortality, greater medication errors and higher hospitalisation rates. Evidence shows that levels of health literacy are lowest among socially disadvantaged groups, which have higher rates of preventable non-communicable diseases as a result. Thus, improving health literacy has been identified by the World Health Organisation as a key strategy for tackling health inequalities in both developed and developing countries.

Established in 2012, the Health Literacy Network is the first healthy literacy research initiative of its kind, bringing together researchers, clinicians, policy makers and patient representatives from a range of disciplines and expertise. Led by Professor Kirsten McCaffery from the University of Sydney, it spans across five continents, and aims to develop a sustainable research program focused on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases among disadvantaged populations.

"We know that people with low health literacy have poorer outcomes on a very wide range of measures. They understand less about their health and are less likely to use preventive health, such as screening and immunisation. They are also more likely to use emergency services and make medication errors," says Professor McCaffery.

The network involves nine WUN universities, including the University of Alberta, the University of Auckland, the University of Bristol, the University of Cape Town, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Leeds, Maastricht University, the University of Sheffield and the University of Southampton. It also involves several WUN+ partners, including individual academics, patient advocates and statutory health organisations. Altogether it has over 200 members and has gained the support of the University of Sydney's Charles Perkins Centre, which now jointly funds the network with WUN.

In May 2012, the network held its inaugural workshop in Southampton to explore potential opportunities for collaboration. There they formed five working groups around the themes of: conceptual and priority issues, health inequality, professional training, digital communication, and participatory approaches. The following year, a major conference and two-day workshop was held in Sydney, in collaboration with the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, which attracted over 200 local and international delegates. Most recently, a workshop was held in collaboration with the Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam to further develop research collaboration in

the previously generated themes. Already established project groups presented their progress and future plans, while key presentations focused on the relatively unexplored themes of digital communication and participatory approaches. New ideas and research plans were also developed in collaborative workshops.

To date, the network has produced 10 international, multidisciplinary research collaborations and has attracted over AU\$230K in funding from the Australian Research Council, ANZSN-Amgen and the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation. It has now submitted a large NHMRC grant proposal to develop and test a maternal health literacy program which involves several members of the network.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Held a workshop in collaboration with the Academic Medical Centre at the University of Amsterdam, September 2014.
- Held a conference and two-day workshop in collaboration with the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, November 2013.
- Six research papers published or accepted for publication in 2015.
- Submitted a large NHMRC grant proposal to develop and test a maternal health literacy program.

in-FLAME International Inflammation Network

There has been an unprecedented rise in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as allergies, asthma, cancer, diabetes and obesity. Inflammation and immune dysregulation are common features of these conditions, often associated with environmental and lifestyle risk factors such as dietary patterns, environmental pollutants, microbial patterns and stress. Given the central role of the immune system in the human body, inflammation must be examined as both a common element and target for the prevention of NCDs.

The in-FLAME International Inflammation Network addresses the risk factors, pathways and strategies to overcome the rising propensity for chronic inflammatory disorders and associated immune dysregulation, with a focus on early effects on the developing immune system. Led by Professor Susan Prescott from the University of Western Australia, it involves nine WUN universities, as well as WUN+ partners from 20 countries around the world. Together the collaborating institutions are working on an integrated program of population studies, biological studies and intervention studies aimed at preventing inflammation and the burden of subsequent disease.

"To truly overcome the rising rates of modern disease, we must target prevention from the first moments of life,

addressing the many modern risk factors shared by so many of these chronic diseases. And promoting early 'immune health' is a critical part of reducing the risk of inflammatory disease and promoting healthy development of all organ systems," says Professor Prescott.

Since its establishment in 2011, the group has hosted three annual workshops in Southampton, Washington DC and Cape Town. A fourth workshop will take place in Marburg, Germany in June 2015, and will include sessions designed to facilitate current collaborations and stimulate new directions within the network. Five members of the network also participated in The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) Congress 2015, at which a separate satellite meeting of the in-FLAME Network, sponsored by Danone, was also held. Most recently, three members of the network presented data from in-FLAME's food allergy survey at the World Allergy Organization (WAO) International Scientific Congress in Brazil.

So far, the group has been quite successful in terms of funding and publications. In addition to three Research Collaboration Awards from the University of Western Australia totalling AU\$60K, it also received €12.5K from the German Research Council and CA\$5K from the University of Alberta in 2014. They have produced over 25 research papers, with more submitted or currently in review. Three international exchanges between PhD students, postdoctoral researchers and faculty have also been facilitated through the network.

The group is currently undertaking a new pilot study of breast milk and infant fecal samples from pregnancy cohorts worldwide to determine which breast milk constituents, when combined with data on infant gut microbiota composition and metabolites, predict or prevent overweight children. Another project to investigate environmental contaminants in breast milk is also being established. This collaboration has formed the basis of a new EU 2020 Horizon Grant application, selected to go forward into the second stage.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Three workshops in the UK, the US and South Africa, with a fourth planned for June 2015 in Marburg, Germany.
- Awarded three Research Collaboration Awards totalling AU\$60K from the University of Western Australia, 2012-2014.
- Over 25 research papers published, with more submitted or in review.
- *Origins: Early-life solutions to the modern health crisis* by Professor Susan Prescott published, April 2015.
- Presented data from food allergy survey at the WAO International Scientific Congress in Brazil, December 2014.

Immune Responses Underlying COPD Pathology

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) describes a largely irreversible and common set of lung pathologies affecting over 80 million people, predominantly in low and middle income countries. The World Health Organization estimates that, by 2030, COPDs will be the third largest cause of death worldwide. However, a number of studies have recently identified that infections by parasitic helminths can slow or prevent pathologies caused in certain respiratory diseases such as allergy, tuberculosis, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza infections; all conditions that can increase the likelihood of COPD developing in an individual.

Led by Dr William Horsnell at the University of Cape Town, Immune Responses Underlying COPD Pathology investigates how exposure to different pathogens influences the onset of chronic lung disease. Specifically, it focuses on how one's infectious history can influence their immune system. This is important since it can not only identify important causes of COPDs, but also novel new approaches to controlling their development.

"Our collaboration is particularly interested in how infections with parasites can protect against the remodeling effects on the lung of infections which pre-dispose us to COPDs (such as viral infections). To address this complex question we are conducting complementary clinical and basic immunological studies alongside major epidemiological studies into lung health. Our studies may identify how exposure to helminths can be manipulated to protect against the initiation of certain COPDs," says Dr Horsnell.

In addition to the University of Cape Town, the WUN project involves the University of Bergen and the University of Southampton. It also includes researchers from Århus University (Denmark), the Imperial College (UK), the University of Liege (Belgium)

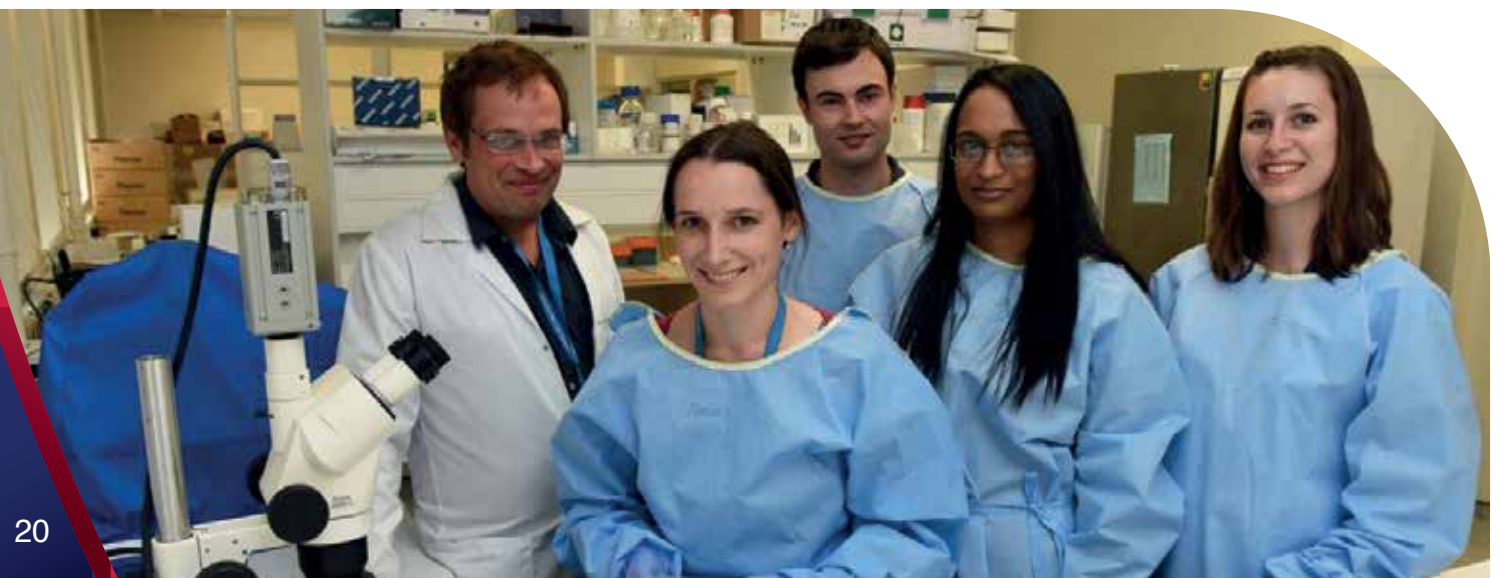
and Tartu University (Estonia). So far, the group has been successful in identifying that helminths can, in fact, induce sophisticated regulation of host immunity.

In 2010, the group received a WUN Research Development Fund (RDF) grant to help grow the project. In the past year they have received five grants totalling over £150K from organisations in Africa, Europe and the UK, which will allow for the generation of new data. Also in the last 12 months, they have filed a patent application for a novel approach to controlling lung pathology and helminth infections, published five research papers and one book titled '*How Helminths Alter Immunity to Infection*'.

Going forward, the group will continue to develop their knowledge on helminth modulation of pulmonary immunity in both basic and clinical studies. The long-term intended outcome is to use their basic science studies to guide detailed clinical studies of how infection induced induction of COPDs can be positively manipulated. Additionally, they hope to develop new therapeutic approaches against lung diseases based on their current observations on how immune pathologies can be regulated by helminths.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Awarded over £150K from the Marie Curie Incoming Fellowship (EU), National Research Foundation (South Africa), Royal Society International Exchange (UK), Sir Halley Stewart Trust (UK) and the University of Cape Town (South Africa).
- Patent application for 'Protection against parasitic nematode infection by surfactant (SP-D)' filed in February 2014.
- Five research papers published, as well as one book titled '*How Helminths Alter Immunity to Infection*'.



A photograph of three young children sitting outdoors. The child on the left is a boy with dark hair, wearing a blue ribbed sweater. The child in the middle is a younger child wearing a bright yellow beanie and a red jacket. The child on the right is a girl with dark hair, wearing a dark jacket. They are all looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a wooden structure, possibly a fence or part of a building, and some outdoor items like a red bucket.

Global Challenge Understanding Cultures

It is increasingly difficult to identify a culture unaffected by globalisation. Increased population mobility, a more integrated transnational economic system and the rise of international communications networks are just a few of the trends impacting local cultures worldwide. Conducting rigorous comparative studies of cultural processes can provide a deeper understanding of these interactions in order to inform effective policy-making and implementation. However, this is beyond the scope of any single entity—it requires collaboration across both institutions and regions around the world.

The WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge brings together scholars from the humanities and social sciences, as well as other disciplines, to develop research into culture and society that addresses issues of relevance to policy-makers. A key goal is to gain a better understanding of the consequences of globalisation for the world's cultures; how globalisation is challenging national, regional and individual cultural identities and practices. Researchers are particularly encouraged to explore new forms of knowledge exchange as a result of technological advancement.

Performing the Jewish Archive

Displacement throughout the 20th century affected the musical, theatrical and literary output of Jewish artists in several ways. Until recently, many of their creative works were thought to have been lost entirely. However, many of these artefacts and memories have survived, and are now being used to create a new and sustainable archive for the future.

Led by Dr Stephen Muir from the University of Leeds, Performing the Jewish Archive explores the role of art throughout 1880-1950, an intense period of Jewish displacement. It explores traditional archives, ethnographic archives and the creative works themselves, in order to recover and reengage the work of Jewish artists, and stimulate the creation of new works. It also aims to theorise and reconceptualise the Jewish archive as 'co-textual', where all artefacts are components of a non-hierarchical, non-linear system to ensure no one archive is privileged over another.

The project evolved from an earlier WUN collaboration, *Music, Memory and Migration in the Post-Holocaust Jewish Experience*, involving the University of Cape Town, the University of Leeds, the University of Sydney and the University of York. In 2014, it was awarded a £1,526,901 grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) under the 'Care

for the Future' theme, and has since flourished into a multidisciplinary, global initiative. It now has 26 WUN+ partners from around the world, including the British Library, Anne Frank Trust and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

"We are a unique combination of scholars from a diverse range of subjects, crossing traditional disciplinary boundaries—even integrating scientific research methodologies at the heart of an arts-led investigation," says Dr Muir. "We seem to have caught the imagination of a huge range of organisations—both Jewish and non-Jewish—all interested in the Jewish artistic past and how it impinges on all of our futures."

Between October 2013 and July 2014, the group held several composition workshops where nine student composers created new works based on rediscovered archival materials. These were then performed at the Imperial War Museum in Manchester, as well as the group's first international conference in July 2014. Hosted by the University of Leeds, the conference included 23 papers, three performances, and two keynote lectures by scholars from Australia, Canada, Israel, the UK and the US. The group has also held the first of a series of one-day symposia, titled 'Archives into the Future', hosted by the British Library.

A second conference will be held in collaboration with the European Cantors Association and the Jewish Music Institute in June 2015. The group has also planned five international performance festivals, and has several forthcoming publications. The project will culminate in an interactive public web resource featuring an online database of the group's project performances with links to supporting archival artefacts, associated conference/symposium presentations, publications and audience response data.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Awarded "Care for the Future" grant from the AHRC totalling over £1.5M, 2014.
- Hosted an international conference titled, "Continuities and Ruptures: Artistic Responses to Jewish Migration, Internment and Exile in the Long Twentieth Century", July 2014.
- Dr Stephen Muir consulted on the Prime Minister's Holocaust Commission, 2014.
- *Performing Captivity, Performing Escape: Cabarets and Plays from the Terezin/Theresienstadt Ghetto* published by Seagull Books, April 2014.

Networking Young Citizens

New media has drastically changed communication practices throughout the world. Social media in particular has had a strong influence on younger generations, influencing both their political values and civic cultural norms. It is therefore worth exploring how traditional institutions of political socialisation and new social movements might use social media to relate to and engage youth.

Led by Mr Brian D. Loader from the University of York, Networking Young Citizens explores the contemporary political and civic engagement of networked young citizens both within and beyond their own societies. The group's research interests range from 'unconventional' political engagement (social movements, connective action, protest) to changing political norms, the rise of smaller political parties, celebrity politics, identity and consumer politics, austerity social conditions, rising social inequalities and political socialisation. It is also concerned with civic education in regard to online environments.

"It is important for democratic societies to understand how young people are expressing their own sense of democratic citizenship in a time of dramatic socioeconomic change," says Mr Loader.

The project involves the University of Leeds, the University of Sydney and the University of York, as well as nine WUN+ partners located throughout Sweden and the US. In 2012, the group received US\$312K from the Spencer Foundation to conduct a two-year comparative study exploring whether social media use facilitates new forms of civic learning and engagement among young people, and the potential for these dynamics to mitigate longstanding inequalities in political engagement.

By conducting national surveys of 16-29 year olds in Australia, the UK and the US, as well as online focus groups, the group found a strong, positive relationship between social media use and civic/political engagement among young people in all three countries. In addition to further engaging youth who already take an active role in politics, the study found that social media also stimulates less-interested youth to participate. The robust positive relationship between social media use and political engagement, combined with other patterns in the data, also suggested that social media could contribute to a generation-based decrease in political inequality over time.

The group has published six research papers and participated in two sessions about the cultural politics of cyberspace at the Understanding Global Digital Cultures Conference 2015 in Hong Kong, co-convened by Mr Loader. The first session focussed on young citizens' political interactions on Facebook and Twitter, while the second focussed on celebrity politics, social networking and the political engagement of youth. The group also plans to develop a study group website, which will include new group members, a blog, details of current projects and a literature repository. The group will also continue to seek further external funding.

KEY OUTCOMES

- Awarded US\$312K from the Spencer Foundation to conduct a comparative study in Australia, the UK and the US.
- Six research papers published.
- Two sessions at the Understanding Global Digital Cultures Conference in Hong Kong, April 2015.
- Mr Brian D. Loader served as a witness to the Speakers Commission on Digital Democracy in the UK, July 2014.

iMom - International Migration, Optimizing Maternity Health Research

Improving maternal health was one of the eight Millennium Development Goals set in 2000 and large scale immigration and ethno-cultural diversity is a common feature of high income nations that can present many challenges for maternal healthcare. The configuration of maternity services, as well as wider socioeconomic, political and cultural processes, all play a role in immigrant women's maternity experiences and outcomes. To date, attempts to understand these dynamics and identify ways in which maternity services may be best configured have largely focused on individual nations.

iMOM - International Migration, Optimizing Maternal Health Research aims to compare and contrast maternity care models of service provision for migrant/immigrant women in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the US. Led by Dr Gina Higginbottom from the University of Alberta, it focuses on the health status of migrant/immigrant women in these nations, highlighting commonalities and differences in respect to maternity and migration. The project involves the University of Alberta, the University of Leeds, the University of Sheffield and the University of Sydney. It also involves the University of California, Davis (US), University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) and Linnaeus University (Sweden) as WUN+ partners.

"As women now constitute a majority of transnational migrants to high income countries, migration inevitably impacts directly on the maternity care services in receiving nations. Therefore understanding of immigrant mothers' experiences of antenatal care is important to ensure culturally competent health and social care to these women," says Dr Higginbottom.

In July 2012, the group held a three-day international symposium where it established a strategic plan and identified future research priorities, including

vulnerability/marginalisation, safe motherhood and issues across the lifespan. To prepare, each partner produced a scoping review paper regarding maternity care provision for and health status of immigrant women in their country. The consortium then identified commonalities and differences between countries. The group also gave a presentation to faculty and students at the University of California, Davis in March 2013.

Through this collaboration, the group hopes to initiate development of a comparative research program on international migration and maternity that will attract national and international funding. It is currently working on a comparative review paper from a four-country perspective, as well as the development of a joint proposal to The Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center. Going forward, the group plans to further identify external funding opportunities and foster the exchange of faculty, graduate students and research trainees.

KEY OUTCOMES

- International symposium on migration and maternity held at the University of Alberta, July 2012.
- *An integrative review of experiences of maternity services for immigrant women in Canada* published in *Diversity and Equality in Health and Care*, 2012.
- Four-country comparative review of the antenatal care experiences of immigrant women in development.
- Joint proposal to The Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in development.





Research Investments

Developing innovative solutions to some of the world's most significant challenges requires interdisciplinary collaboration across institutions and regions. Consequently, WUN reinvests a significant portion of its membership subscriptions to provide grants which help researchers expand their networks, seek out partners and attract ongoing funding from other sources. Since 2009, WUN has invested over £1 million in collaborative research, which has catalysed many times that amount in external funding. Most member universities also offer seed funding to support the development of WUN research programs.

The Research Development Fund (RDF) is an annual competitive grant scheme designed to foster innovative, high quality and sustainable research among member universities. This funding, which ranges between £10,000 and £15,000, is typically used for exploratory research, targeted workshops, faculty exchanges and the formation of collaborative networks. To qualify for a grant, these collaborations must include at least three WUN member universities and span at least two geographical regions. In 2014-2015, 34 applications were submitted to the fund, 19 of which were successful and received a total of £189,671.

One of these projects was *Data Diplomacy: Political & Social Dimensions of Data Collection & Sharing*, which is led by Professor Timothy Dye at the University of Rochester. Awarded £10,575, this cross-cutting initiative will bring together experts and practitioners representing a range of global, bilateral, and institutional interests in a workshop that explores the emerging construct of Data Diplomacy, including the concept of data sharing as a diplomatic act. It will also explore the opportunities and challenges related to this new space, such as agency, privacy, ownership and freedom of information. This follows the WUN Data Science Workshop held at the University of Rochester in August 2014, which raised questions around the political and social dimensions of data sharing. The project involves five WUN universities, including the University of Auckland, the University of Bristol, the University of Rochester, the University of

Sheffield and the University of Western Australia, as well as Syracuse University as a WUN+ Partner.

In 2014-2015, WUN also invested £41,800 through the Sustainability Fund, which is designed to accelerate the development of major WUN initiatives that demonstrate particular capacity to attract significant external funding from government, NGOs, international agencies, foundations and industry sources. A key initiative, led by Professor Paul Routledge at the University of Leeds, is *Resource sovereignty strategies for social transformation, environmental sustainability and human well-being*. Awarded £10,000, the project explores the theme of 'resource sovereignty'—alternative conceptualisation and discourses beyond mainstream supply-demand approaches, as well as innovative forms of ownership, management and production within the food and water sectors. The funding will allow the group to co-produce research concerning sustainable and equitable resource use in relation to livelihood insecurities and vulnerabilities in partnership with grassroots communities and CSOs. In addition, the three key sub-themes of the Public Health Global Challenge (Health of family and migrants across the life course; Resilience of adolescents and healthcare workers; and Schools as a setting for reducing risk factors associated with NCDs) were each awarded £6,000 to engage the services of a professional bid developer who will work with them to identify and secure external funding opportunities to advance their research programs.

Each year, WUN also invests £60,000 through the Global Challenge Steering Group Fund, which fosters collaboration across the network as a whole by uniting research communities at major international events, such as the annual WUN Conference and AGM. This year's conference, held in Hong Kong in April 2015, explored the issue of migration through the lens of WUN's Global Challenges in public health, climate change, global higher education and cultural understanding, with an aim to facilitate discourse that will contribute to the Post-2015 Development Agenda discussion.



Research Mobility

WUN developed the Research Mobility Program (RMP) as part of its commitment to fostering the next generation of researchers. Through the RMP—which essentially serves as a WUN Passport—students and staff from WUN universities can travel to other member institutions for a period of up to three months to collaborate, learn, teach and share across borders. This allows early-career researchers, including PhD students, to expand their knowledge and skill sets, widen their professional networks, and take advantage of new career opportunities. It also gives them access to expertise and facilities that may not be available at their home institution, while exposing them to new ideas and research cultures. Most importantly, it provides an invaluable opportunity for personal and academic growth which often leads to future international academic success. Although the programme is not centrally run or funded by WUN, member universities participate by making funds available for travel and subsistence, or by integrating the RMP into international research programmes. In 2014, sixteen young researchers from member institutions received funding to participate in the program.

One of these researchers was Elizabeth Ward, a PhD student from the University of Leeds. In September 2014, Elizabeth travelled to the University of Cape Town (UCT) to work alongside Dr Sandra Young, who specialises in South African memory studies and is currently examining the role of the archive in the post-conflict state. She said the experience greatly enhanced her PhD, which examines the depiction of the Holocaust in East German cinema.

“Working with Dr Young and her colleagues was a unique opportunity to discuss my PhD which, in its methodological approach, considered the role of the archive in mediating memory and trauma in a post-conflict state. The opportunity of learning from the work being done by these colleagues on the role of the archive in a different—but in some ways similar—social, cultural and historical context was highly beneficial to my doctoral research and for the preparation of my postdoctoral research project.”

While in Cape Town, Elizabeth also undertook outreach work at the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation as part of Professor Stuart Taberner’s AHRC-funded exhibition titled *‘Germany’s Confrontation with the Holocaust in a Global Context’*. She believes that her participation in the RMP will lead to future academic success and career opportunities.

“To have been able to do this at an early stage of my career will, I believe, help me progress in academia. For example, the fact I have participated in the WUN RMP was cited as an important factor by the University of Birmingham when selecting my research project above others to support in a recent funding competition.”

Alison and Fiona Simmance, PhD students from the University of Southampton, also participated in the programme. In October 2014, they travelled to the University of Bergen to work under Associate Professor Jeppe Kolding in the Department of Biology for one month. As a result of their longstanding passion for living natural resources, their projects aim to deepen our understanding of the role of inland fisheries for food and nutritional security in Malawi, Africa.

Given the nature of their research, Alison and Fiona believe that cross-disciplinary, international cooperation is a key factor in executing field work and building understanding of the global context of this sector. The RMP allowed them to further develop their research design and methodologies via one-to-one peer expert tutoring, undertake training on specialised modules in relation to fish and food security, and network with key stakeholders and leading experts in the field.

“The Research Mobility Programme accelerated the

influence of our individual PhD research projects and enabled us both to strengthen our research base and build valuable global connections.”

A key outcome of the experience was the submission of a paper and presentation to the inaugural FAO Global Conference on Inland Fisheries in Rome, which brought together scientists, policy makers and the international development community to discuss the challenges and opportunities for freshwater fisheries around the world. Alison and Fiona each presented their projects and submitted a research paper, which will be included in the proceedings published by the American Fisheries Society. In addition, they developed a video about inland fisheries in Malawi, in collaboration with the FAO and Michigan State University, which was exhibited at the conference and gratefully received by Malawi's Department of Fisheries. Alison was also asked to represent the Economic and Social Assessment Panel in reporting back recommendations to all delegates in the final session of the conference.

Faculty members from WUN universities can also participate in the RMP. In September 2014, Professor George Lewith, who leads the Complementary and Integrated Medicine Research Unit at the University of Southampton, visited the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) to discuss collaborative research opportunities with Professor Justin Wu, Director of the Hong Kong Institute of Integrative Medicine (HKIIM). During this visit, the two worked together to identify priority areas where they might join together to apply for competitive grants. Professor Lewith said the visit also allowed him build constructive research links and make valuable contacts in mainland China and Hong Kong.

“We now have clear collaboration with some Chinese herbal manufacturing companies and will be exploring those in relation to clinical trials in the United Kingdom. Making contact with both academics and herbal manufacturers in Hong Kong was very constructive and valuable.”

The two institutes are currently collaborating on four projects relating to Chinese herbal medicine, clinical trials, and integrative medicine curriculum. Going forward, Professor Lewith plans to continue developing a Chinese herbal research agenda in both Europe and the UK.



WUN Summer School

Graduate students from around WUN gathered in Perth from 29 January-13 February for the inaugural WUN Summer School hosted by the University of Western Australia (UWA). Taking advantage of UWA's expertise and unique environment, this year's topic was Soil Science and Climate Change. The 20 students, representing seven countries and nine WUN universities, spent two weeks sharing their global perspectives on responses to climate change and contributing their diverse disciplinary expertise to address landscape and soil-related climate issues.



Led by Associate Professor Judith Berman, the program included a four-day scientific workshop, fieldwork at the UWA Future Farm and an intensive writing retreat at UWA's Albany campus, where students honed their academic writing skills. One participant, David Huber, said the program allowed him to gain valuable hands-on experience.

“A goal of mine for the summer school was to learn more about geophysical methods (e.g. GPR and ERT), which I was able to be involved with, both in the field and in the post-processing of the data. In the laboratory, I again assisted with soil processing methodology, and gained new experience with DNA extraction and analysis for soil microbial community diversity.”

The summer school is an outcome of the Responding to Climate Change Steering Group and is designed to bring together exceptional graduate students from throughout WUN to learn, engage, share and network. Each year, a topic linked to one of WUN's Global Challenges will be chosen and participants will be selected based on nominations from their institutions. Each WUN member university is invited to nominate up to three candidates, who are then reviewed and shortlisted by a selection panel.

CONFERENCES, EVENTS AND STRATEGIC WORKSHOPS

Throughout the year, WUN hosts conferences, workshops, seminars, virtual seminars and events that bring an international community of researchers together to share ideas, spark collaboration and further our ground-breaking research.

These events partner with leading universities, academic societies, international organisations, foundations and governments in order to ensure our research is informed and impactful.

Listed below is a small selection of important events between May 2014 and April 2015. More information can be found on the events section of the WUN website.

Managing the Globalization of Sanitation and Water Services: 'Blue Gold' Regulatory and Economic Challenges

Hong Kong, China | 23-24 March 2015

Hosted by the Chinese University of Hong Kong, this conference examined the globalization of sanitation and water services.

Approaching Indigenous Research: Ethics, Protocols and Collaboration

Sydney, Australia | 2-4 February 2015

This conference opened a dialogue exploring the ways Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers from a range of locations collaborate, including discussions about a shared understanding of some of the key issues and questions that can lead to significant ongoing research projects.

Transnational Holocaust Memory

Leeds, UK | 26-27 January 2015

This conference, hosted by the University of Leeds, explored the future of Holocaust memory in shifting international contexts, shaped by mass migration, global travel and tourism, economic globalization, digital media and the internet.

BOAO-WUN-TOP Workshop - Higher Education: Ambition and Innovation

Sydney, Australia | 2 December 2014

WUN partnered with the Boao Forum, Top Education and The University of Sydney to present this workshop on the role of higher education and research as a global and local driver of innovation and internationalisation in economic and social development. The workshop was opened by H.E. Ambassador Zhou Wenzhong, Chairman of the Boao Forum, and previously the Chinese Ambassador to Australia and to the United States.

Urbanisation and Development in China

Southampton, UK | 30-31 October 2014

The University of Southampton hosted this conference examining the rapid pace of urbanisation in China from economic, sociological, political as well as historical perspectives.

Wireless Wellbeing and Personalized Health Symposium

Sydney, Australia | 29 September 2014

The University of Sydney hosted this international symposium on advances in personal digital lifestyle monitoring that lead to healthier lifestyles and wellbeing.

WUN Data Science (Big Data) Exploratory Workshop

Rochester, USA | 22 August 2014

Hosted by the University of Rochester, this workshop brought data science researchers together from across the network to develop WUN initiatives in this rapidly evolving field of cross-disciplinary research.

International Conference on Sustainable Development and Environment Participation

Zhejiang, China | 20-22 June 2014

Zhejiang University hosted this international conference on policy responses to climate change, air pollution and environmental degradation.

Feeding the masses: China-Latin America agriculture connections through time

Chicago, USA | 21 May 2014

WUN's Global China Group hosted this forum jointly with the University of Chicago on China's international food security policy.

2016 WUN Conference and AGM in Maastricht, 5-7 April 2016

In 2016, the WUN Conference and AGM will convene in mainland Europe for the first time. Maastricht, the Netherlands is a charming city at the heart of Europe with a fascinating blend of history and culture. Its central location will facilitate the participation of representatives of the nearby European headquarters of multilateral and donor organisations (European Commission, OECD, WHO, WFP, WTO, UNESCO).

Maastricht is known as the culinary capital of the Netherlands with a wide selection of bars, brasseries and restaurants showcasing regional and international cuisine. Dating from Roman times, the city is an absolute gem of historical architecture adapted to today's modern and fast changing world, surrounded by a gentle rolling countryside.

The venue for the 2016 Conference and AGM is Maastricht University.

We look forward to welcoming you in Maastricht in April 2016.



For more information on visiting Maastricht visit <http://www.vvvmaastricht.nl>

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

WUN is managed by a Secretariat consisting of the Executive Director, Professor John Hearn, and the General Manager, Nicholas Haskins. The network is governed by a series of three governance boards:

Partnership Board

The Partnership Board is responsible for setting forth the policy of the network and is made up of the Presidents, Vice-Chancellors or Rectors of the member universities.

University	Member
The University of Alberta, Canada	Dr Indira Samarasekera (Vice-Chair)*
The University of Auckland, New Zealand	Professor Stuart McCutcheon*
The University of Basel, Switzerland	Professor Dr Antonio Loprieno
The University of Bergen, Norway	Professor Dag Rune Olsen
The University of Bristol, United Kingdom	Sir Eric Thomas
The University of Cape Town, South Africa	Dr Max Price (Chair)*
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong	Professor Joseph Sung*
The University of Ghana, Ghana	Professor Ernest Aryeetey
The University of Leeds, United Kingdom	Sir Alan Langlands
Maastricht University, The Netherlands	Professor Dr Martin Paul*
The University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA	Dr Kumble Subbaswamy
The Pennsylvania State University, USA	Dr Eric Barron
The University of Rochester, USA	President Joel Seligman
The University of Sheffield, United Kingdom	Sir Keith Burnett*
The University of Southampton, United Kingdom	Professor Don Nutbeam*
The University of Sydney, Australia	Dr Michael Spence
The University of Western Australia, Australia	Professor Paul Johnson
The University of York, United Kingdom	Professor Koen Lamberts
Zhejiang University, China	Professor Zhaohui Wu
The Worldwide Universities Network	Professor John Hearn*

*denotes Steering Group member

Academic Advisory Group

The AAG is responsible for overseeing the academic portfolio of the network and advising the Partnership Board on strategic direction. It is made up of senior administrators, usually at the level of Vice-President or Deputy Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for the research or internationalisation priorities of the member universities.

University	Member
The University of Alberta, Canada	Ms Britta Baron
The University of Auckland, New Zealand	Professor Jane Harding
The University of Basel, Switzerland	Professor Madeleine Herren-Oesch
The University of Bergen, Norway	Professor Anne Christine Johannessen
The University of Bristol, United Kingdom	Professor Nick Lieven
The University of Cape Town, South Africa	Professor Danie Visser*
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong	Professor Sian Griffiths*
The University of Ghana, Ghana	Professor John Owusu Gyapong
The University of Leeds, United Kingdom	Professor David Hogg
Maastricht University, The Netherlands	Professor Tom van Veen*
The University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA	Professor Katherine Newman
The Pennsylvania State University, USA	Professor Martin Trethewey
The University of Rochester, USA	Professor Peter Lennie*
The University of Sheffield, United Kingdom	Professor Gill Valentine

*denotes Steering Group member

The University of Southampton, United Kingdom	Professor Mark Spearing
The University of Sydney, Australia	Professor Mark Adams
The University of Western Australia, Australia	Professor Robyn Owens (Chair)*
The University of York, United Kingdom	Professor Deborah Smith
Zhejiang University, China	Professor Yonghua Song

Coordinators Group

Each WUN member university appoints an administrator to manage the implementation of the WUN strategies and programmes on campus, and to serve as the main contact point for network initiatives. This group shares information on collaborative opportunities and develops WUN's research programmes.

University	Member
The University of Alberta, Canada	Dr Stefan Scherer (Chair) / Ms Tamara Day
The University of Auckland, New Zealand	Ms Usha Bhatia
The University of Basel, Switzerland	Mr Erich Thaler
The University of Bergen, Norway	Mr Bjorn Erik Andersen
The University of Bristol, United Kingdom	Dr Susan Jim
The University of Cape Town, South Africa	Ms Wilna Venter
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong	Ms Shally Fan / Ms Yvonne Heung
The University of Ghana, Ghana	Professor Anthony Andrew Adjei
The University of Leeds, United Kingdom	Ms Louise Heery
Maastricht University, The Netherlands	Ms Alexandra Rosenbach
The University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA	Dr Elizabeth Chilton
The Pennsylvania State University, USA	Ms Coleen A. Hynoski
The University of Rochester, USA	Dr Scott Steele / Ms Ruth Levenkron
The University of Sheffield, United Kingdom	Ms Karen Tsui
The University of Southampton, United Kingdom	Ms Eleonora Gandolfi
The University of Sydney, Australia	Ms Amanda Sayan
The University of Western Australia, Australia	Dr Judith Berman
The University of York, United Kingdom	Ms Helen Rajabi
Zhejiang University, China	Ms Minjie Tian

Global Challenge Steering Groups

The four identified WUN Global Challenges are guided by steering groups made up of representatives of the WUN Partnership Board, AAG and Coordinators Group in addition to a panel of research experts drawn from the field. The Chairs of the Global Challenge Steering Groups are drawn from the AAG:

Global Challenge	Chairs
Responding to Climate Change	Professor David Hogg, The University of Leeds
Global Higher Education and Research	Professor Nick Lieven, The University of Bristol
Public Health (Non-communicable Disease)	Professor Jane Harding, The University of Auckland
Understanding Cultures	Professor Danie Visser, The University of Cape Town

Contacts

For more information about WUN, please contact:

Executive Director: John Hearn, jhearn@wun.ac.uk

General Manager: Nicholas Haskins, nhaskins@wun.ac.uk

Program Manager (China): Dr Grace Liu, gliu@wun.ac.uk

Program Officer: Bee Nortje, amnortje@wun.ac.uk

Communications Officer: Daniela Carlucci, dcarlucci@wun.ac.uk

List of WUN Interdisciplinary Research Groups

GLOBAL CHALLENGE KEY

■ RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE
 ■ GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH
 ■ PUBLIC HEALTH
 ■ UNDERSTANDING CULTURES
 ■ OTHER RESEARCH
 ■ LEAD
 ■ PARTICIPANT

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP	LEAD ACADEMIC	WUN PARTNERS																		
		ALBA	AUCK	BASL	BERG	BRIS	UCT	CUHK	LEED	MAAS	UMAS	PSU	ROCH	SHEF	SOUT	SYD	UWA	YORK	ZHE	
ACCWA - Adapting to Climate Change for Water Adaptation	Professor Joe Holden																			
Adopting REDD+ for Conservation, Sustainable Community Livelihood and Climate Change Mitigation	Associate Professor Lawal Marafa																			
Ancient Soils and Modern Land Use - a Challenge for Critical Zone Science	Assistant Professor Mattias Leopold																			
Changing Coasts, Climate Change and Other Drivers	Professor Robert Nicholls																			
Characterising Space Radiation and its Impact on Climate Change	Professor Ian Mann																			
Climate Change in the Media	Associate Professor Meng Ji																			
Climate Change: Understanding Systemic Shocks in Integrated Infrastructures	Dr Nick Taylor Buck																			
Critical Zone & Soils Science Consortium	Professor Steve Banwart																			
Developing Compatible Energy and Climate Strategies	Dr Håvard Haarstad																			
Enhancing Food Security through Urban Agriculture	Associate Professor Debra Davidson																			
Gender & Climate Change	Professor Nancy Tuana																			
Global Farm Platforms for Optimisation of Grazing Livestock Production Systems	Professor Mark Eisler																			
Global Patterns of Climate Adaptation in Kelps	Dr Thomas Wernberg																			
Health Promoting Responses to Climate Change	Associate Professor Ralph Maddison																			
Himalayan Climate Change: Debris Covered Glacier Response, Water Availability, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Response	Dr Andrew Bush																			
Impact of Climate Change on the Socio-Ecology of Animals: Effects on Epidemic Disease Spread and Species Invasion	Dr Luca Giuggioli																			
Impact of Land Use Change on Future Water Quality	Professor Neil Coles																			
Indian Ocean Archaeology Network	Professor Alistair Paterson																			
Legumes as the Hub of Diversification and Adaptation to Climate Change in Mediterranean Agriculture	Dr Michael Considine																			
Managing the Globalization of Water Services in a World Affected by Climate Change: Regulatory and Economic Challenges	Associate Professor Julien Chaisse																			
Ocean Eddies in a Changing Climate: Understanding the Impact on Coastal Climates and Worldwide Fisheries Production	Associate Professor Andrew Jeffs																			
Resilient Pasts and Sustainable Futures? Designing Socially Significant Scenarios	Dr Rob Marchant																			
Responding and Adapting to Climate Change: Recognizing and Managing Uncertainty in the Physical, Social and Public Spheres	Professor Stephan Lewandowsky																			
Spatial Framework for Assessing Environmental Livelihood Security	Dr Eloise Biggs																			

NTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP	LEAD ACADEMIC	WUN PARTNERS																		
		ALBA	AUCK	BASL	BERG	BRIS	UCT	CUHK	LEED	MAAS	UMAS	PSU	ROCH	SHEF	SOUT	SYD	UWA	YORK	ZHEJ	
Spatial Framework for Assessing Environmental Livelihood Security	Dr Eloise Biggs																			
Stomata: Sensors of Climate Change	Professor Julie Gray																			
Transcultural Understanding of Designing with Climate Change: A Joint Design Research Studio Approach	Dr Chengzhi Peng																			
Watershed Re-analysis: Towards a Unified Framework for Model-Data Access, Analysis and Discovery	Professor Christopher Duffy																			
Weathering Science Consortium	Professor Steve Banwart																			
Challenges of Access and Equity: the Higher Education Curriculum Answers Back	Dr Tai Peseta																			
Feasibility Study of Recommender Systems in Academia	Dr Evgueni Smirnov																			
Global Regionalisms, Governance and Higher Education	Professor Susan Robertson																			
Ideas and Universities	Mr Ian Wei																			
Labor Market Outcomes Among Highly-Skilled Immigrants and Return Migrants: The Role of Place of Education	Associate Professor Yuying Tong																			
Laboratory Blog Book	Professor Jeremy Frey																			
Language Assessment Research Network	Professor He Lianzhen																			
Widening Participation: 'First in Family' Students Succeeding in Universities	Dr 'Ema Wolfgamm-Foliaki, Associate Professor Airini, Dr Lorri Santamaria																			
The Worldwide Challenge of English	Professor Andrew Linn																			
World-class Universities, Publication and Research Assessment: Rethinking the Mission of Higher Education in the Global Age	Assistant Professor Jun Li																			
Collaborative Care for Dementia in Rural China Primary Care	Associate Professor Chen Shulin																			
Data Diplomacy: Political & Social Dimensions of Data Collection & Sharing	Dr Timothy Dye																			
Dementia Prevalence and Impact in Low Income Areas in South Africa	Dr Celeste De Jager																			
Early Life Opportunities for Prevention of Non-communicable Disease in Developing Countries	Professor Mark Hanson																			
Global Health Justice Network	Dr Keith Syrett, Dr Oliver Quick																			
Global Initiative Promoting Meaningful Engagement of People with Advanced Dementia Ageing in Supported Living Environments	Dr Sanetta Du Toit																			
Global Public Health Justice: The Ethics of Research for Public Health	Professor Reidar Lie																			
Health Literacy Network	Associate Professor Kirsten McCaffery																			
Health Promoting Responses to Climate Change	Associate Professor Ralph Maddison																			
Healthy Kitchens: Healthy Cities	Dr Helen Eley																			
Helminths and Allergy in South Africa and Northern Europe	Professor Cecilie Svanes																			

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP	LEAD ACADEMIC	WUN PARTNERS																		
		ALBA	AUCK	BASL	BERG	BRIS	UCT	CUHK	LEED	MAAS	UMAS	PSU	ROCH	SHEF	SOUT	SYD	UWA	YORK	ZHEJ	
in-FLAME – International Inflammation Network	Professor Susan Prescott																			
Lessons for Life: Innovating and Evaluating School Age Health Education Interventions for the Prevention and Control of NCDs	Dr Marcus Grace																			
Mathematics of NCDs: Understanding Failure of Cell Signalling	Professor Hinke Osinga, Professor Bernd Krauskopf																			
Negotiating Transition to a ‘Grown Up World’: the Journey to Sexual and Reproductive Health for Unaccompanied Adolescent Asylum Seekers	Dr Jane March-McDonald																			
OPERA – Optimal Pregnancy Environment Risk Assessment	Professor David Olson																			
Pedestrian Pathways in the Healthy City	Professor Ralph Pite																			
Reducing Inequality in Oral Health	Professor Linda Slack-Smith																			
Resilience in Young People	Professor Steve Reid																			
Schools as a Setting for Reducing Risk Factors for Non-communicable Diseases	Ms Jacquie Bay																			
Scoping Survey of Autism Support and Resources: Social Integration of Diagnosis, Healthcare and Support Systems	Dr Huso Yi																			
Shaping Health Systems	Professor Stephanie Short																			
Supporting Patients to Make Best Use of Their Medicines	Associate Professor Parisa Aslani																			
Understanding Non-communicable/Communicable Disease Syndemics in Transitional Societies	Professor Naomi Levitt																			
67,000 More Helping Hands: An International Collaboration to Further Engage Pharmacists in Improving Primary Healthcare	Professor Ross Tsuyuki																			
Addressing Multiple Forms of Migrant Precarity – Beyond “Management” of Migration to an Integrated Rights-Based Approach	Professor Nicola Piper																			
CARMEN (Co-operative for Advancement of Research through Medieval European Network)	Dr Elizabeth Tyler																			
Changing Political Culture Through Education: Democratic Citizenship and School Curriculum in Post Apartheid South Africa	Professor Robert Mattes																			
Comparative Analysis of International Refugee Resettlement International Law Obligations and Policy	Dr Jay Marlowe																			
Data Diplomacy: Political & Social Dimensions of Data Collection & Sharing	Dr Timothy Dye																			
Geographies of Power: Justice, Revolution and the Cultural Imagination	Professor Sophia McLennen																			
Global China Group	Professor Junsen Zhang																			
Global Initiative Promoting Meaningful Engagement of People with Advanced Dementia Ageing in Supported Living Environments	Dr Sanetta Du Toit																			
Global Social Initiative on Ageing	Professor Norah Keating																			
iMom - International Migration, Optimizing Maternal Health Research	Associate Professor Gina Higginbottom																			
Indian Ocean Archaeology Network	Professor Alistair Paterson																			
Indigenous Research Network	Associate Professor Catriona Elder & Dr Vicki Grieves																			
Labor Market Outcomes Among Highly-Skilled Immigrants and Return Migrants: The Role of Place of Education	Associate Professor Yuying Tong																			
Migration With and Without Children: Causes and Economic, Social and Psychological Consequences	Professor Junsen Zhang																			

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP	LEAD ACADEMIC	WUN PARTNERS																		
		ALBA	AUCK	BASL	BERG	BRIS	UCT	CUHK	LEED	MAAS	UMAS	PSU	ROCH	SHEF	SOUT	SYD	UWA	YORK	ZHEJ	
Multilingualism & Mobility in the Northern & Southern Hemispheres	Dr Kristine Horner																			
Negotiating Transition to a 'Grown Up World': the Journey to Sexual and Reproductive Health for Unaccompanied Adolescent Asylum Seekers	Dr Jane March-McDonald																			
Networking Young Citizens	Dr Brian Loader																			
Older Workers & Caregiving	Dr Janet Fast																			
Pedestrian Pathways in the Healthy City	Professor Ralph Pite																			
Performing the Jewish Archive	Dr Stephen Muir																			
Romantic China: Cultural Relations between China and the West in the Later Qi Period, 1793-1850	Professor William Christie																			
Skilled Migration & Global English: Language, Development & the African Professional	Professor Athelstan Suresh Canagarajah																			
Structural Reinforcement of Inequality	Professor Jon Lovett																			
Transcultural Understanding of Designing with Climate Change: A Joint Design Research Studio Approach	Dr Chengzhi Peng																			
Transformative Justice Network	Professor Gordon Crawford, Dr Jelke Boesten & Professor Paul Gready																			
Understanding Globalization- Margins and Peripheries	Associate Professor Ana Deumert																			
White Spaces Network	Dr Shona Hunter																			
Xeno-racism & Extremism	Professor Andy Knight																			
Characterising the Transient Radio Sky with SKA Precursors	Professor Patrick Alan Woudt																			
Cognitive Communications	Dr David Grace																			
Spintronics	Dr Yongbing Xu																			

The following IRGs were retired in 2015 as they had achieved their ambitions and came to a natural conclusion. These IRGs may well achieve further results and outcomes and we will report on any significant future achievements.

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GROUP	LEAD ACADEMIC & INSTITUTION
Ice Sheet and Climate Interaction - Implications for Coastal Engineering	Dr Dan Lunt, The University of Bristol
Inclusive and Green Innovation	Professor Xiaobo Wu, Zhejiang University
Limits to Adaptation	Dr Petra Tschakert, Penn State University
Media, Tobacco and Trade: Innovative Approaches to Reducing Non-communicable Disease in the Pacific Region	Dr Judith McCool, The University of Auckland
Nanotechnology for Healthcare	Professor Hywel Morgan, The University of Southampton
Negotiating Multilingual Identities in Migrant Professional Contexts	Professor Suresh Canagarajah, Penn State University
New Technologies and Enhanced Techniques for Water Resource Assessment in a Changing Climate	Professor Neil Coles, The University of Western Australia
Ocean Acidification	Professor Robert Nicholls, The University of Southampton
Oral Health Science Network	Professor David Wood, The University of Leeds
Precarious' Migrants, Access to Social Support and Wellbeing in Global Cities	Dr Geoffrey DeVerteuil, The University of Southampton
State and Society and the Uses of Culture in China	Associate Professor Gary Sigley, The University of Western Australia
Strengthening the Evidence Base for Public Health Action in Societies under Transitions through Development and Application of Advanced Methodologies	Professor Mark Gilthorpe, The University of Leeds
Sustainable Intensification	Professor Guy Poppy, The University of Southampton
World Democracy Forum	Dr David Denmark, The University of Western Australia

PARTNER WITH US

Agencies, policy-makers and philanthropic organisations

WUN partners with a wide range of international agencies and organisations including the UN, OECD, WHO and World Bank Institute in order to deliver sustainable solutions to global challenges. By partnering with us, your organisation can harness the resources of 19 leading universities in 11 countries across five continents through the one channel. Together, we can define a truly global research agenda that makes an impact on scientific discovery, policy frameworks and communities around the world.

Researchers at WUN universities

Each year, WUN researchers come together in new and exciting international collaborations across our four Global Challenge themes. If you are a researcher at a WUN institution—whether early in your career or established in your field—and you wish to start a new project or find out more about existing collaborations, contact your local WUN Coordinator.

Researchers outside WUN

WUN works closely with experts from several other universities around the world, as well as the private sector, in order to expand our intellectual reach and ensure the very best minds contribute to our research. These external partners, known as WUN Plus (WUN+) partners, make an important contribution to joint projects and are appropriately named on funding programmes and publications. However, WUN+ partners do not qualify for direct funding from WUN.

Universities wishing to join WUN

WUN is a network of peer universities from around the world. If you are a research-intensive university with a global reputation, a vision for international excellence and strengths in our priority research areas, we are interested in hearing from you. The first step towards membership is a willingness to participate and invest in WUN. All new members are approved by the WUN Partnership Board.

Online tools and support

WUN provides a range of digital tools to support communication and collaboration among researchers:

- Virtual seminars that bring researchers from distant locations together to share ideas. This service also offers postgraduate students access to international scholars they may not otherwise interact with.
- Desktop conferencing to support meetings and smaller seminars, and to help develop collaborations.

- Public web pages for promoting projects and initiatives.
- All research groups involving three or more WUN member universities from two or more geographic regions are given space on the WUN website to promote activities.
- Cloud-based communications for sharing data, applications and preparatory work.
- Email lists for day-to-day communications and announcements.

WUN also offers funding support and advice to help interdisciplinary research projects identify, bid for and secure external funding. Assistance is provided by WUN's team of expert research managers and administrators.

WUN partner operations

Each WUN member chooses their own model of implementation and operation for WUN. However, we have studied the criteria for successful engagement and they include:

- The President of the university acting as champion for the network, engaging with the Partnership Board, advising on strategy and resource development, and attending the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting.
- A senior university officer, preferably a Vice-President, with the responsibility for research or internationalisation of a research strategy.
- A full or part-time Coordinator to manage the programme and projects of WUN within the university and to act as an intermediary between the network and the university community. The Coordinator works with academics to develop initiatives, follow up on programmes, track achievements and communicate academic and funding opportunities.
- A modest sum set aside by each member university to support collaboration among members.

Global Academy Jobs

WUN has partnered with Global Academy Jobs (GAJ) to develop a truly global academic mobility and recruitment portal. Since the joint initiative was formed in June 2012, GAJ has become one of the world's fastest growing online job portals, providing universities with access to academic talent around the world, as well as providing diverse career opportunities for academics at every stage of their career—from postdoctoral researchers to lecturers, professors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors. To date, WUN's member universities have advertised 23,800 jobs through GAJ, representing a significant cost saving and profile generation to WUN members. Visit www.globalacademyjobs.com

