

1 May 2010

To: Members of the Partnership Board, AAG and Coordinators Group
From: John Hearn

WUN Compact

Note: This document is designed to clarify, for new and existing partners, (i) how WUN can assist them to achieve their international objectives, and (ii) the commitments and actions that Partners should consider in order to get best added value from their partnership with WUN. This document will be attached to the WUN Heads of Agreement, or to the WUN Strategic Directions, so that we can build the team for mutual advantage and success. Please send any comments and suggestions to jhearn@wun.ac.uk; with cc to nhaskins@wun.ac.uk

The Objectives of the WUN Partnership

- **Partnership** - Build a truly global partnership of leading research intensive universities.
- **Research** – Focus on strategic, interdisciplinary research programs related to major global issues where a team approach will deliver new knowledge and impact.
- **Education** – Translate knowledge through virtual seminars, workshops and engagement in influential world fora, relevant global conferences, and policy discussions.
- **Opportunities** – Create new opportunities for academics, administrators, emerging researchers and students for international participation.
- **Internationalisation** – Assist in accelerating the internationalisation of higher education and research.
- **Resources** – Attract new resources in people, grants, scholarships and support from national and international agencies.

The Benefits of WUN Membership

- **Programs** – WUN provides support and expert knowledge through its networks to achieve the above objectives.
- **Research Development** – The Research Development Fund (RDF) provides limited competitive funding for new initiatives relevant to the Global Challenge programs, based on quality, innovation, impact and sustainability.
- **Education** – WUN works with partners, using state of the art information and communication technologies, to facilitate programs of virtual seminars, fora, and

discussions of the Interdisciplinary Research Groups of the Global Challenge programs.

- **Opportunities** - The WUN 'Passport' concept facilitates exchange visits for academics, emerging researchers, students and administrators to build international experience research and support systems. The program may extend in future to the consideration of credit recognition and joint degrees where appropriate.
- **Resources** – A high priority for WUN is to secure additional resources (people, grants, fellowships and scholarships) for its partners and programs.

The Responsibility of WUN Members

Partners who engage fully in the WUN programs have achieved returns on investment in each of the above areas. Returns on financial investment (the WUN subscription of £35k per year being approximately 50% annual dues and 50% for the annual Research Development Fund) can be at least five times the investment within five years (as analysed for Wisconsin-Madison and Southampton). This does not count the returns on investment in academic development, accelerated internationalisation, new international research collaborations and opportunities for staff and students.

Partners who have not engaged have not achieved returns to the above degree. We have studied the criteria for successful engagement and these include:

- **The President** - of the University supports the partnerships, engages on the Partnership Board, advises on strategy and resource development, and attends the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting.
- **The Senior University Officer** - preferably a Vice-President, with responsibility for research or internationalisation of research strategy.
- **A Coordinator** - is appointed, full or part-time, to manage the program and projects of WUN within the university and to participate in the quarterly teleconferences of the Coordinators group. The Coordinator works with academics to develop initiatives, follow up on programs and communicate academic and funding opportunities.
- **A modest sum** – be set aside by each member university to support collaboration amongst members, if possible matching amounts in the WUN Development Fund.

Professor John Hearn
Chief Executive
The Worldwide Universities Network