

The Association of Commonwealth Universities

About the ACU

The ACU is **the world's first and oldest international university network.**

The ACU draws on the collective experience and expertise of our **540+ members**, to **address issues in international higher education** through a range of projects, networks, and events.

By providing academic research, leadership, administering scholarships and promoting inter-university cooperation, **the ACU helps universities better serve their communities**, now and into the future.

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The ACU at 100

Established in 1913, the **ACU** is celebrating its **Centenary** this year.

Through the Centenary theme, ***Future forward: design, develop, deliver***, the ACU will address the important debates on the future of international higher education.

Future Forward: design, develop, deliver is a **member-led initiative** that seeks to engage stakeholders in the key challenges facing higher education today.



What we do at the ACU

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Publications

Network Magazines

Members are encouraged to also join one of our **six professional networks**.

Each network produces regularly publications through which members address current issues in the area pertaining to their network.

The publications provide **information, ideas, insights** and **innovative perspectives** into the areas the networks cover.



The *Bulletin*

The *Bulletin* is the **ACU's membership magazine**, keeping members informed about ACU activities as well as other developments in higher education throughout the Commonwealth and beyond.

Articles cover **current issues in international higher education**, as well as the broad range of the ACU's work.

The *Bulletin* is published four times a year. It is **circulated free to member universities**, and is also **available online** to staff and students of those universities.

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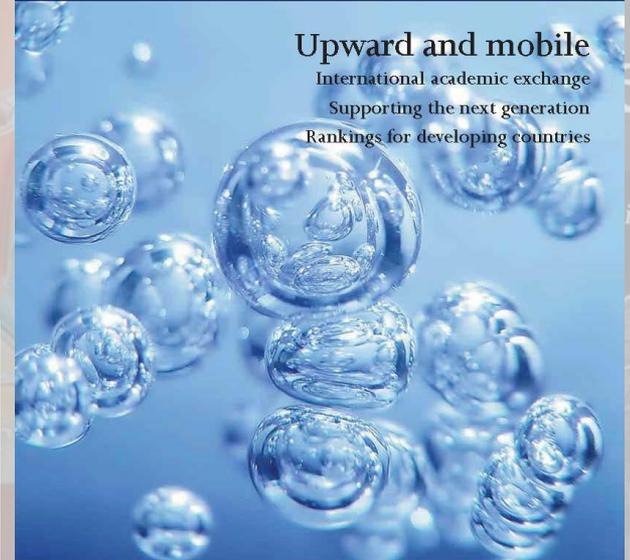
No 177 November 2012

The Association
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Bulletin

No 178 March 2013

Upward and mobile
International academic exchange
Supporting the next generation
Rankings for developing countries



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Events

ACU Perspectives

The ACU Perspectives speaker series **offers our members a chance to contribute to the debates** and discussions on the future directions of higher education, to share their ideas and experiences, and to bring insights from their own region, institution or discipline.

The series theme is '*Change and opportunity in higher education*' – a deliberately broad topic, **allowing speakers to engage with the subject of their choice** using local context and personal experience.

ACU Perspectives

October 2012: **Prof Loyiso Nongxa**

Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Witwatersrand

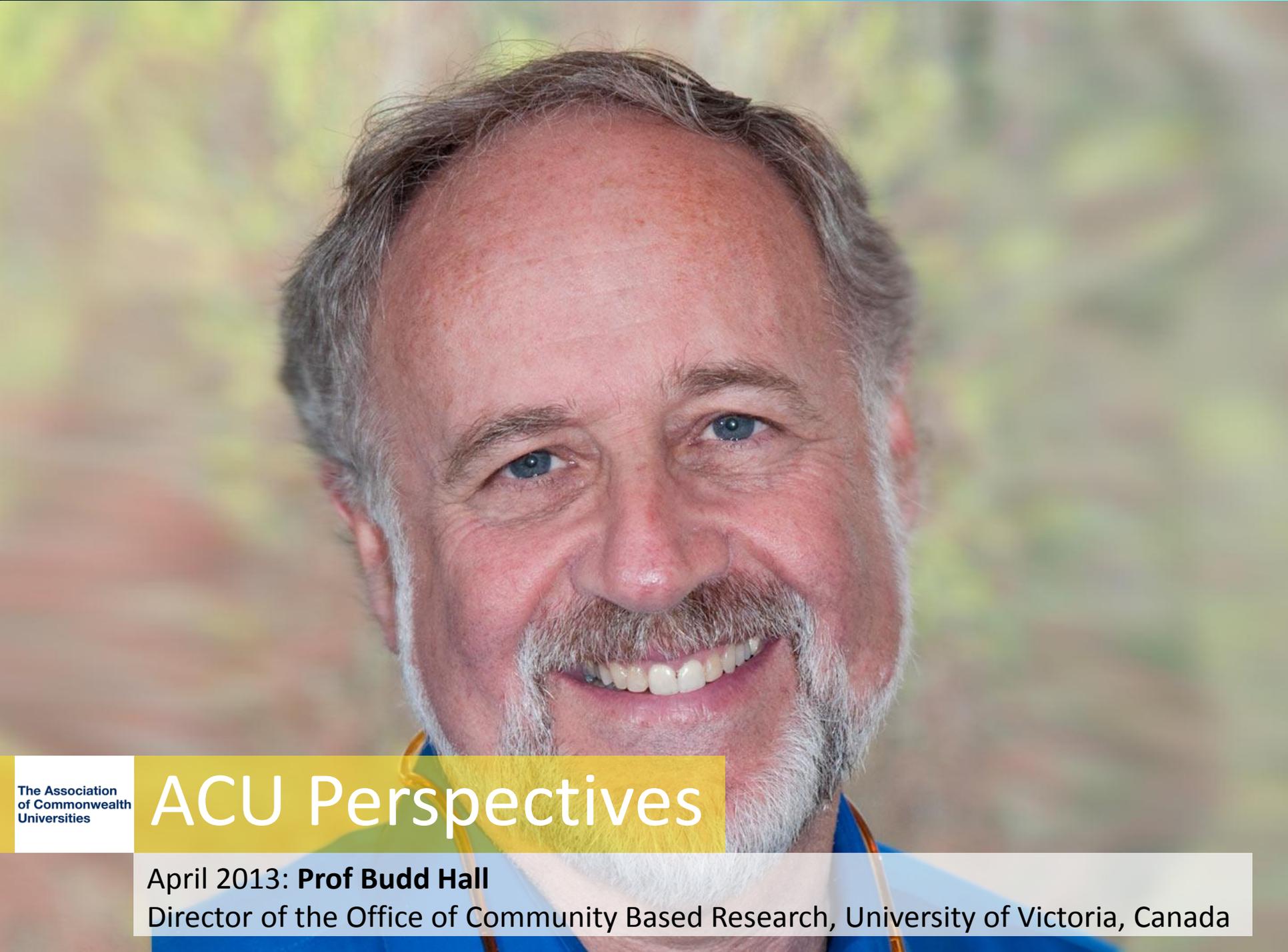




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ACU Perspectives

February 2013: **Prof Roger Makanjuola**
Former Vice-Chancellor of Obafemi Awolowo University



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ACU Perspectives

April 2013: **Prof Budd Hall**

Director of the Office of Community Based Research, University of Victoria, Canada

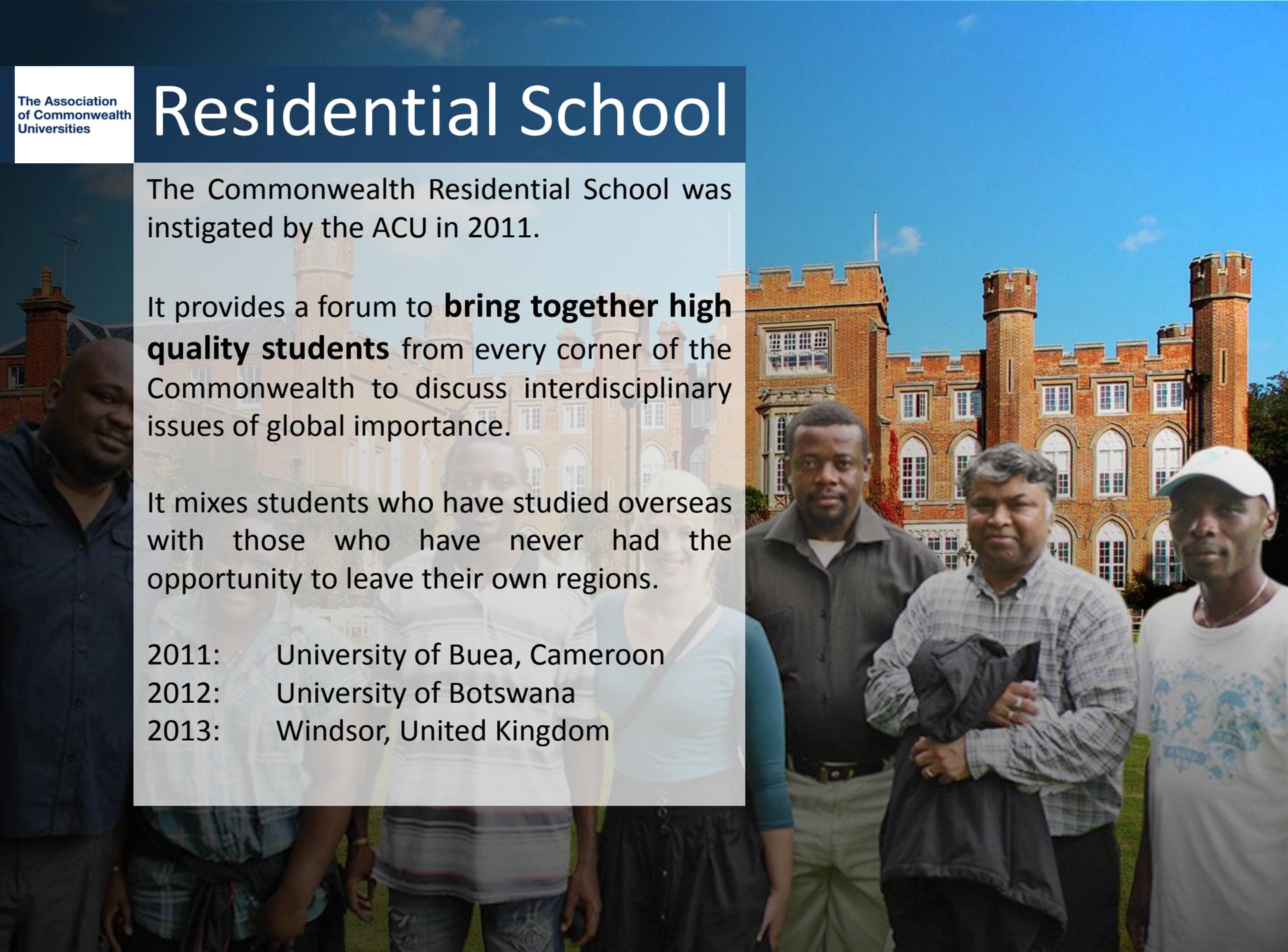
Residential School

The Commonwealth Residential School was instigated by the ACU in 2011.

It provides a forum to **bring together high quality students** from every corner of the Commonwealth to discuss interdisciplinary issues of global importance.

It mixes students who have studied overseas with those who have never had the opportunity to leave their own regions.

- 2011: University of Buea, Cameroon
- 2012: University of Botswana
- 2013: Windsor, United Kingdom





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Residential School

2012: University of Botswana



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Residential School

August 2013: Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, UK

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Projects

Project Work

DRUSSA (Development Research Uptake in Sub-Saharan Africa)

DRUSSA is a five-year programme **supporting 24 African universities** as they strengthen processes and systems to manage research uptake.

The programme is working with these universities to **improve the capacity of universities to contribute research evidence** in pro-poor policy and practice.

The DRUSSA programme is **led by the Association of Commonwealth Universities** based in the UK.



For more information visit: www.drussa.net

Project Work

DocLinks

DocLinks is a project that aims to **increase understanding and establish better links between African and European Doctoral education candidates.**

It will **enhance mutual understanding** through the creation of a **unique network and website** bringing together African and European research students.

DocLinks **raises awareness** on doctoral education in Europe and Africa through the implementation of **residential schools.**



Project Work

Beyond 2015– Is Higher Education ready?

The world faces some serious challenges, and higher education is an essential part of the response. Universities are already engaging with these issues, but are still trying to articulate their current and potential role.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) expire in 2015 and a new set of international targets will then be put in place. Whatever the goals that emerge, higher education will play a fundamental role in enabling countries to achieve them.

But what next for universities? How will higher education respond to the challenges and goals that emerge beyond 2015 – and is it ready?

This October, the ACU will launch an international campaign to raise awareness of how higher education can and should respond to global challenges beyond 2015.

- What are universities already doing to combat local, national, and international issues?
- What is the role of universities in their local communities and wider society?
- What knowledge, skills, and values, should universities be developing in their students?
- How can universities ensure that their academic, cultural, cultural, and social capital is shared with wider society?

For more information visit and to contribute:
www.acu.ac.uk/beyond-2015 .

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The Association
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Scholarship Administration

Scholarship Administration

Commonwealth Scholarships

The **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom** (CSC) is responsible for managing Britain's contribution to the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP).

The CSC supports over 800 awards annually. Awards are funded by the [Department for International Development](#) (for developing Commonwealth countries), and the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills](#) and the [Scottish Government](#) (for developed Commonwealth countries), in conjunction with [UK universities](#).

Scholarships are open to postgraduate students from any Commonwealth Country. Details of the programme can be found here: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/>

Chevening Scholarships

Chevening Scholarships are the UK government's global scholarship programme, funded by the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office \(FCO\)](#) and partner organisations. The programme makes awards to outstanding scholars with leadership potential from around the world to study postgraduate courses at universities in the UK.

Details on the scheme can be found here: <http://www.chevening.org/>

Centenary Conference

Future forward: taking charge of change
Wednesday 16-Friday 18 October 2013
Senate House, University of London, UK

The three-day conference will engage members and non-members alike in discussions on the impact of universities on civil society, economic growth, the role of the international student, and governance, as well as the influence of governments and external stakeholders on universities.



The conference will bring together top academics and high-profile speakers to discuss the role universities play in social and economic development, and help delegates to better understand, promote, and plan for the impact of these changes in higher education.

Confirmed Speakers include:

- Rt Hon Charles Clarke, former Secretary of State for Education and Skills and Home Secretary
- Dr Srikumar Banerjee - former Chair, Atomic Energy Commission of India
- Anne Glover – Chief Executive and Co-Founder, Amadeus Capital Partners
- Rt. Hon. Professor Silas Lwakabamba – Minister for Infrastructure, Rwanda
- Dr Theuns Eloff – Vice-Chancellor, North West University
- Dr Christopher Hill, University of Nottingham, Malaysia

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Post Conference Tour to University of Oxford

Delegates who wish to stay on for an extra day can register to join us for our post conference day tour to the University of Oxford on Saturday 19 October. The day will be spent in the 'city of dreaming spires' learning about the history, visiting the illustrious colleges and interacting with staff and students. Cost of the post conference includes transfers and lunch.

Bursaries

Bursaries to support the attendance of Vice-Chancellors, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, PhD students and early career academics from member institutions.

The bursaries will cover the cost of the conference delegate fee which includes admission to all conference sessions (excluding post conference) and evening events, conference meals and materials, and accommodation (from one night before the conference to one night after).

www.acu.ac.uk/news-events/events/centenary-conference/