

Australia-Africa Education Partnerships for Development

AAUN Forum and AGM 4-6 September 2017

(Working Draft at 8 June 2017 – note participation deadline 1 July 2017)

Venue: The University Club of Western Australia
 Hackett Entrance 1, Hackett Drive Crawley, Western Australia, 6009

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Purpose

Assess education and research partnerships for development, engagement of stakeholders, and building sustainable research and exchange programs for the AAUN Strategic Plan 2017-20.

Focus

We invite the advice and experience of all attending from government, academia and business in shaping AAUN capacity and impact for the future. In our first 5 years we have established a platform and delivered results. Now we need to build greater effectiveness, opportunity, impact and sustainable resources.

(i) EDUCATION – In September 2017 DFAT will invite **African Ministers of Education**, presenting a significant opportunity. Please note the incorporation of the Ministers in the program for AAUN, flowing in to the [ADU Research Forum](#).

(ii) POLICY – The UN Sustainable Development Goals, UN Climate Accords, China Belt and Road Approach, Australian and African international policy objectives are highly relevant to AAUN. They provide a policy framework with mutual benefit to Africa and Australia, shaping research, education and economic development. They should also provide resources to implement partnerships and programs.

(iii) RESEARCH – We will review our progress and results from the 30 seed-funded programs that we have invested in since our launch 5 years ago at DFAT Canberra in 2012; and select the successful ones to build further with appropriate new initiatives. We will strengthen our partnerships with our sponsors, especially DFAT and ACIAR, and seek additional international resources and funding.

(iv) HIGHER EDUCATION – We can review and extend our research and mobility programs and interactions with expert exchange, the Australia Awards, international needs and opportunities. Some of our members have highlighted the needs for institutional development and more effort towards linked courses and degrees.

Format

Session 1	Policy and priorities for AAUN partners and Stakeholders relating to the AAUN Strategic Plan 2017-20
Session 2	Review and develop initiatives in education, entrepreneurship, employment and economic development
Session 3	Review and develop our initiatives in environment, agriculture, food and nutritional health security
Session 4 (Parallel)	(i) Implementation of the AAUN Strategic Plan 2017-20; (ii) Australia-Africa-China Developments

Practical alignment and engagement with the SDGs, Climate COP22, Belt and Road. Alliances in research and education with AGAAR, Australian Government and Agencies. Development of Australia Africa Week in concert with DFAT and participants. Cooperation with other networks, including Diaspora and Alumni Groups (WUN, ARUA, British Council, Association of Commonwealth Universities, RUFORUM)

Structure

Each session has an opening speaker, 3-4 commentators and expert discussants. Chairs and speakers please keep strictly to time. Discussion time for consensus and practical outcomes is a vital part of the workshop.

Deadlines

We invite members to comment and send proposals for speakers and presentations by **1 JULY 2017** to A-Prof Grace Liu at gliu@wun.ac.uk (cc aaun.events@sydney.edu.au)

Please assist us to deliver the best quality program. The steering group will agree the final program after the closing date for input of **1 JULY 2017**.

Selected Speakers and discussants

Please send your 200-word bio and 200-word abstract to A-Prof Grace Liu at gliu@wun.ac.uk by **1 JULY – URGENT - after which the program is closed**. The bios and abstracts will be edited and circulated with selected background papers and the final program in early August.

NOTE: In interests of environment and cost, there will be no printed programs. Please go to the AAUN website ahead of the meeting for updates of the program, or to download or print the final program as you wish.

Participants

We expect up to 100 expert participants from academia, government, diplomatic, business, agencies. We are pleased to welcome guests and observers from cooperating networks and NGOs, including to the AAUN AGM meeting, other than for the final closed session which is for AAUN steering group only.

Host

We are grateful to the University of Western Australia for hosting the AAUN Forum allied to UWA Research Week, and for sponsoring the Annual Dinner. The AAUN Forum is also a part of **Australia Africa Week 4-8 September**, and a partner with [Africa Down Under 2017](#).

Registration

Forum registration for 4 September is without charge, thanks to support from Australian Government Agencies (DFAT, ACIAR, Department of Education). The dinner is a separate registration at cost price of \$ 110 (including GST). Drinks included. All participants are invited to register for the Forum dinner.

Please register [via this page](#). **Registrations close on Wednesday 16 August 2017**. All participants including speakers are required to register.

Outcomes

Important to the success of the Forum, we will develop a communique or position paper for policy makers in Australia and Africa, with copy to relevant international governments and agencies. Several research programs are likely to arise from the discussions. We will also engage with media and websites in communicating the outcomes of the meetings.

Follow up

We will call for AAUN-Partnership and Research Development seed fund bids in October (catalytic grants of average \$10K to initiate and build strategic and sustainable research teams and exchange programs).

Communications

We encourage you to circulate this notice to colleagues who you think may be interested in the proceedings. For further information, please [go to our website](#) or contact us at the emails provided at the end of this notice.

Program: Monday 4 September 2017

AUSTRALIA AFRICA EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT	
Venue: Conference and Staff Centre, University of Western Australia	
Time	Provisional Program – further submissions, comment, suggestions are welcome (by 1.07.17) SPEAKERS, TOPICS AND STRUCTURE TO BE CONFIRMED
0800	Shuttle bus leaves from Travelodge/Mercure Hotels, 417 Hay Street, PERTH, WA
0830	Registration & arrival tea
0900	Opening Session 1 - Australia Africa: Education Partnerships for Development
0900	Welcome & Introductions AAUN Co-Chairs Prof John Hearn and Prof Frans Swanepoel (delegate for VC Prof De La Rey) Host: Prof Dawn Freshwater, Vice Chancellor, University of Western Australia (3 Min each) Opening Keynote Speaker: Minister of Education (Africa- Kenya or South Africa) Response: Minister of Education (Western Australia) (7 mins each) Round Table: Comments on priorities and needs for equal knowledge partnerships Matthew Neuhaus, Assistant Secretary for Africa, DFAT Canberra - Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Ministers of Education: Kenya, South Africa, Ghana <i>Nigeria, Zambia, Mauritius in attendance as discussants</i> High Commissioners: HE Isaiya Kabira, Kenya & HE Ms. Beryl Rose Sisulu, Rep South Africa (5 min each) Discussion (15 min) – Action priorities: Australia-Africa future engagement in Higher Education and Research.
1015	Coffee break
1045	Session 2 - Practical implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Higher Education, Research, Entrepreneurism, Employment Chair: (TBC) University President, AAUN Member Africa
	Keynote speaker (15 min) Prof Ernest Aryeetey, Secretary General, African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Panel (5 min each) (i) Australia Awards Programs – Highlights and Futures (ii) African Journalist and Communicator (iii) Australian Vice Chancellor (TBC)

	<p>(iv) African Vice Chancellor</p> <p>Potential discussants: Dr. Mignonne Breier, University of Cape Town; Dr. George Odhiambo, University of Sydney; Prof Hettie Schonfeldt, University of Pretoria; Ms. Di Fleming, AGAAR; Dr. Peter Johnston, University of Cape Town; A/Prof Stuart Johnson, Curtin University; RUFORUM - TBC</p> <p>Discussion (15 min)</p>
1145	<p>Session 3 - Environment, food and nutritional health security Chair: (TBC) University President, AAUN Member Australia</p>
	<p>Keynote speaker: Research leader – integrated land and market management (15 min)</p> <p>Panel: 7 min each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) International Agency Expert - towards sustainable research leadership (ii) ACIAR Alliance: Mellissa Wood – achievable partnerships and improved impact (iii) Development challenges and solutions in demographics and social development (iv) African Vice Chancellor – obstacles to the sustainable development of talent <p>Potential discussants: Prof Robyn McConchie (University of Sydney); A/Prof Robyn Alders (University of Sydney); Dr. Peter Johnston (University of Cape Town); A/Prof Stuart Johnson (Curtin University).</p> <p>Discussion: 15 min</p>
1245	<p>Lunch – served in foyer</p>
1400-1500	<p>RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES WORKSHOP</p>
	<p>Parallel Session 4- 1 Dr. David Mickler (University of Western Australia), Prof Maano Ramutsindela (University of Cape Town), Prof Frans Swanepoel (University of Pretoria), Prof John Hearn (AAUN)</p> <p>Review the current status and future focus of AAUN research programs for strategic plan 2017-20 (refer annual report). The following topics are relevant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research. What adjustments are needed to AAUN research priorities and scope? 2. Education. What are the realistic prospects for twinning, dual degrees, courses? 3. Mobility. How can we resource and implement greater mobility and partnership? 4. Communities. Engagement and teamwork with Africa Awards and Alumni 5. Partnerships for cooperation with WUN, ARUA, RUFORUM, ACU, British Council 6. Funding strategies and priorities for sustainability of research and education programs. 7. Any Other Business <p>Note 1: this discussion is a consultation and preparation of options feeding in to the AAUN AGM at 1630h.</p> <p>Note 2: WUN members/observers may wish to meet separately through a lunch time meeting.</p> <p>Attendance: AAUN Members and Stakeholders, WUN Global Africa Group - Observers. Guests are welcome as observers, and may be invited to speak by the Chairs.</p>

	<p>Parallel Session 4-2 (ii) Australia Awards and Alumni – may be on Day 2 with ADU Research Forum; Potential speakers: (TBC)</p> <p>Parallel Session 4-3 (iii) Global Africa: China-Africa-Australia engagements; Potential speakers: Prof Prem Ramburuth, University of New South Wales; A/Prof Emmanuel Laryea, Monash University; Dr Qinhua Xu, Renmin University of China; VC Prof Ebenezer Owusu, University of Ghana; others TBC</p>
Thank you:	We acknowledge our members and partners including Australian Government departments and agencies DFAT, ACIAR, Education, sponsors and supporters.
Note:	Membership subscriptions match the external investments in our activities. Member universities also support their researchers in participating. Subject to availability of funds, we hope to have 5-7 bursaries towards travel support of Early Career Researchers.
1500-1600	Concluding Session - Co-Chairs: Prof John Hearn and Prof Frans Swanepoel
	Strategic priorities and programs – action plan and next steps
1615-1745	AAUN AGM 2017
	AAUN Steering Group, with invited guests and observers <i>Agenda and papers to be circulated to Members in August.</i> (Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided)
1800 for 1830-2100	Conference Dinner for AAUN, WUN observers, guests (by invitation, with separate registration and at-cost payment)
(Transport to Conference Hotel Travelodge at 2100)	Keynote Speaker: TBC – African Education Minister (15 min) Vote of Thanks – AAUN speaker (5 min) Venue: The University Club of Western Australia

Discussants

African Heads of Mission in Australia; Australian Heads of Mission in Africa; Academic, business and NGO experts

Discussants Invitation

The whole meeting will have time for discussion and **we invite expert discussants from AAUN, WUN and stakeholders to contact us and participate.** *Please let us have your further expressions of interest and suggestions by 1 July 2017.*

Contacts

Program development and editing: Associate Prof Grace Liu, E: gliu@wun.ac.uk

Logistics and Communications: Marije Nieuwenhuis, E: aaun.events@sydney.edu.au

Registration

Those wishing to participate in this AAUN Forum, including WUN Africa Group colleagues, please [register via the registration website](#). With limited seating of 120, priority will be given to AAUN members and stakeholders. Registration will close on 16 August 2017.

Please check our website

The website will be updated regularly and we ask you to refer to it as we develop the AAUN Forum and associated events further.

DAY 2, TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Joint AAUN Research Symposium with AFRICA DOWN UNDER (ADU)

- **Concept:** AAUN Programs and ADU as they relate to Mining and Extractive Industries and mining societies
Chair: Mr. David Doepel, Murdoch University
- **Program:** Currently under development. We are exploring how African Education Ministers, HOMs and higher education experts in Africa and Australia can join in exploring solutions to graduate employment, entrepreneurship and new business development.

Your input is welcome

Please note the above program is now developing, with some flexibility in panelists and discussants. There is a little time for further comment and engagement across AAUN, with African and Australian HOMS, and also government.

We welcome any further advice and suggestions until 1 July 2017 to A-Prof Grace Liu – gliu@wun.ac.uk.

DAY 3-5, WEDNESDAY 6 - FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

AFRICA DOWN UNDER CONFERENCE

AAUN members who wish to attend the **Africa Down Under Conference** can register at the [ADU website](#).

We are exploring with ADU the opportunities for AAUN researchers and educators to engage in challenges related to extractive industries, social cohesion and sustainable societal development.

Thank you for your interest and engagement,

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