

Teamwork for Education and Economic Sustainability AAUN Forum and AGM 27 August 2018

(Working draft V9 at 21 July 2018 – topics and speakers subject to change)

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

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Purpose – knowledge partnerships for policy development:

The international policy framework is taking shape around the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the China Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the UN Paris Climate Accords (COP) and national policies. How can Universities best interact in bringing research evidence to fill the knowledge gaps? How can the Australian-African Universities Network contribute? What are the practical steps 2018-20 to focus our working teams and partners in engagement and results? How do we build the next generation of leaders who are capable and conversant with global policy; and able to access the opportunities and the required resources? How do we maximize the opportunities for Australia Africa partnerships?

FOCUS – the priority areas for Universities to engage with research and education:

AAUN invites the advice and experience of all attending from government, academia, agencies and business in shaping our capacity and impact for the future. In our first five years we have established a platform and delivered results. Now we seek to build greater effectiveness and impact, and to attract sustainable resources from national and international agencies. The program below is a concept in which we invite our members and stakeholders to engage and comment.

(i) **RESEARCH** – The AAUN research base holds significant assets in our established teams and communities of Australian and African researchers, educators and students. These teams focus in the areas of environment, food and nutrition security, public health in non-communicable disease, and related education and economic development.

(ii) **EDUCATION** – In August 2018 AAUN has invited selected **African Ministers of Education**, presenting a significant opportunity. Please note the incorporation of the Ministers in the program for AAUN on 27 August, flowing in to the [ADU Research Forum](#) on 28 August and to the [Africa Down Under Conference](#) 29-31 August (see details below).

(iii) **POLICY** – The UN Sustainable Development Goals, UN Climate Accords, China Belt and Road Approach, Australian and African international policy objectives are all 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. They are an opportunity to evolve research, teaching and learning in new approaches, degrees and qualifications for the leaders of tomorrow.

(iii) **RESEARCH Strategy** – We review our progress and results from the 43 seed-funded programs that we have invested in since our launch 6 years ago at DFAT Canberra in 2012; and select the successful ones to build further with new initiatives. We will strengthen our partnerships with our sponsors, especially the Australian Government and agencies (DFAT and ACIAR) and the NRF (South Africa), and seek additional international resources and funding. In keeping with our research and education character, we are establishing 3-year alliances with our knowledge partners, leveraging further partnerships with African and International Networks, and focusing on mutual objectives and outcomes.

(iv) HIGHER EDUCATION – We review and extend our research and mobility programs and interactions with exchanges of experts, the Australia Awards, international needs and opportunities. Some of our members have highlighted the needs for institutional development, graduate employment and more effort towards linked courses and degrees. An important dimension is to include the Alumni from AAUN and Australia-Africa training courses alongside our efforts.

AAUN Forum Structure

Each session has 1-2 opening speakers, 2-3 panelists and expert discussants. **Chairs and speakers please keep strictly to times shown.** All participants are experts and there is time for discussion. Discussion time for consensus and practical outcomes is a core part of the workshop.

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.

DEADLINES (see details below):

Registration is open and we ask you to register now [via this link](#) . Register for the Forum, dinner and hotel now.

Note that the annual AAUN Dinner is a highlight, with African Australian music and dancing: we recommend...

15 July: Chairs/speakers/panelists send now a 200-word bio + 200-word statement/abstract to gliu@wun.ac.uk

1 August: final program - please monitor the AAUN website for final adjustments – we will not print programs.

AAUN Concept Program: Monday 27 August 2018

AUSTRALIA AFRICA – TEAMWORK FOR EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Venue: The University Club of Western Australia	
Time	
0800	Shuttle bus leaves from Pan Pacific Hotel, PERTH, WA
0830	Registration & arrival coffee/tea
0900	Opening Session 1 – Knowledge diplomacy: education and economic development.
0900-1015	<p>Welcome - Prof John Hearn (Chair/MC), Co-Chair AAUN Australia (Objectives: 3 min) Kent Anderson (for VC Dawn Freshwater), DVC University of Western Australia (3 min) Prof Cheryl De La Rey, President University of Pretoria, Co-Chair AAUN Africa (3 min) <i>Launch of UWA Africa Research and Engagement Centre; signing of UWA-UP MOU</i></p> <p>Keynote Speakers (10 min each): Hon Prof Kwesi Yankah, the Minister of State (Tertiary Education), Ghana (TBC) Australia-Africa Teamwork 2030: what are the mutual opportunities? (10 min) Senator Hon Linda Reynolds CSC, Chair Australian Foreign Affairs Committee (10 min)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Australian Foreign Policy White Paper</p> <p>Panel: 5 min each: (i) Gita Kamath – Head, DFAT Africa Branch, Canberra (ii) HE Prof Joyce Kikafunda – High Commissioner of Uganda (iii) HE Jenny Dee, Australian High Commissioner to Mauritius</p> <p>Discussants: <i>African High Commissioners</i>, Ghana (HE Edwin Adjei); <i>Australian Ambassador to Zimbabwe</i> (HE Bronte Moules), Chargé D’Affairs to Ethiopia (Siddhartha Chakrabarti)</p> <p>Discussion (30 min) – Australia-Africa practical partnerships and priorities in higher education. Towards economic sustainability: what are key points for productive results?</p>

1015-1045	Coffee break
1045-1145	Session 2 – Global and local: policy into practice (SDGs, BRI, Climate, Indo-Pacific). <i>Chair: Dr Aldo Stroebe, Exec Director International, National Research Foundation SA (5 min)</i>
	<p>Keynote speakers (10 Min each):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Cheryl de la Rey, President University of Pretoria 2. Mellissa Wood, General Manager, Global Programs, ACIAR <p style="text-align: center;">Partnership Launch: The ACIAR-AAUN Partnership 2018-21</p> <p>Panel (7 min each): with emphasis on interactions and research priorities/gaps</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Mr Seth Appiah-Mensah, UN Office to the African Union (UNOAU) (ii) TBC <p>Discussants: Dr Simon Hearn (Canberra); A Prof Richard Vokes, UWA; Prof Maano Ramutsindela (UCT); Dr David Mickler, UWA.</p> <p>Discussion (25 min)</p>
1145-1300	Session 3: Australia Africa Teamwork – priority research/education areas for impact. <i>Chair: Professor Prem Ramburuth, University of New South Wales (5 min)</i>
	<p>Keynote speakers (10 min each):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, President University of Mauritius 2. Professor Ian Jacobs, President University of New South Wales <p>Panel (7 min each):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Prof Hettie Schonfeld, Pretoria. Food composition data in attaining food security (ii) Dr Rose Amazan, UNE. Australia Africa higher education mapping – key issues <p>Discussants: Dr Susan Ledger (Murdoch), Itumeleng Komanyane, UWA -Aust Awards Africa.</p> <p>Discussion (30 min)</p>
1300-1400	<p>Lunch – served in foyer</p> <p>Round Table Meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Worldwide Universities Network – Global Africa Group (Venue Banquet Hall South) <i>(Chairs: Dr David Mickler, UWA; Prof Maano Ramutsindela, UCT)</i> (ii) Australia Awards and Alumni Group (Chair: Anthea Edmunds) Early Career Researchers Group (Venue Banquet Hall South)
1400-1500	Session 4: Instruments for engagement – what works and what does not? <i>Chair: Prof Frans Swanepoel, University of Pretoria (5 min)</i>
	<p>Keynote speakers (10 min each):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David Doepel, Murdoch. Extractives and community sustainability: advances and obstacles. 2. Dr Peter Johnston, UCT. Land use challenges in Africa and Australia: shared solutions 203 <p>Panel (7 min each):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) TBC - Member, Australia Awards and Alumni Group: sustainable partnerships (ii) Dr Casta Tungaraza, AGAAR: Development of recommendations. <p>Discussants: Jeff Hart (ADU); Tinache Jakwa (UWA); Prof Janet Bornman (Murdoch); Harriet Gaussi (UNE-Aust Awards-Africa); Victoria Saude (Curtin–Aust Awards- Africa); Dr Grace Muriuki, UQ; Dr Patrick Nkhoma (Dalp Consultancy Services)</p> <p>Discussion (20 min):</p>

1500-1530	Concluding Session - Co-Chairs: Prof John Hearn and Prof Cheryl de la Rey <i>Session Chair Reports (Hearn, Stroebel, Ramburuth, Swanepoel - 4 x 5 min)</i>
	Strategic priorities/programs – action plan and next steps, recommendations to the AGM
1530-1600	Tea break (1610, for those not attending the AGM or Forum dinner, bus to the Pan Pacific)
1615-1715 1715-1745	AAUN BUSINESS MEETING and AGM 2018 – Steering Group, invited guests and observers (Closed session with AAUN Steering Group – Confirmation of strategic plan, budget)
	<i>Agenda and papers to be circulated to Members in early 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: Pan Pacific at 2110)	Performance: (Grace Barbe – music and dancing: http://music.gracebarbe.com/) Vote of Thanks – Prof John Hearn, AAUN (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. The Forum brings together multidisciplinary expertise: we welcome viewpoints and comments to build the future. Please note the participation of the Chair and members of AGAAR (Advisory Group on Australia Africa Relations – reporting to the Foreign Minister, The Hon Julie Bishop).

Contacts

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

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

Speakers, Panelists and Chairs - URGENT

Please send your 100-200 word bio, and 100-200 word abstract to A-Prof Grace Liu at gliu@wun.ac.uk by **15 July (NOW) - after which the program is closed**. The bios and abstracts will be edited and circulated, with selected background papers and the final program after 1 August. If you wish to recommend a brief background paper, please do so now.

NOTE: In interests of environment and cost, there will be no printed programs. Please go to the [AAUN website](#) ahead of the meeting (after 1 AUGUST) for updates of the program, or to download or print the final program as you wish.

Participants

We expect up to 120 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.

Registration

Forum registration for 27 August 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 1 August 2017**. All participants including speakers are required to register. Please register as early as you can to help us with logistics and catering. Thank you.

Communications: Please check our website

The website will be updated regularly as we develop the AAUN Forum and associated events further.

Follow up

We will call for AAUN-Partnership and Research Development seed fund bids in February 2019 (catalytic grants of average \$10K to initiate and build strategic and sustainable research teams and exchange programs).

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. We welcome and thank our student volunteers from UWA: Tinashe Jakwa, Gashaw Jember and Muhammad Dan Suleiman. The AAUN Forum is also a part of **Australia Africa Week 29-31 August**, and a partner with [Africa Down Under 2018](#).

Thanks to Our Sponsors

- **Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)**
- **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)**
- **National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF)**

DAY 2, TUESDAY 28 August

Joint AAUN Research Symposium with AFRICA DOWN UNDER (ADU)

- **Concept:** AAUN Programs and ADU as they relate to Block-chain initiatives in Mining and Extractive Industries.
Chair: Mr David Doepel, Murdoch University
- **Program:** please see the [Africa-Australia Research Forum webpage](#) and [flyer](#) for details. 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 register – Deadline 1 August 2018 (to d.doepel@murdoch.edu.au)

Please note the above program is now on line.

DAY 3-5, WEDNESDAY 29 - FRIDAY 31 AUGUST

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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