

Meeting Minutes and Actions



Meeting	GHEAR Steering Group Teleconference		
Date	19/20 February 2018		
Location	Teleconference		
Participants	Caroline Dyer - CD Anna Lewandowska - AL John Hearn – JH Mike Hasenmueller – MH Barbara Grant – BG Sue Timmis – ST Susie Jim – SJ Eleonora Gandolfi - EG		
Apologies	Mark Pegrum, Sally Fan, Martin Paul, Harm Hospers, Crain Soudien, Tony Welsh, Mamokgethi Phakeng,		
Guests	Suzanne Wijsman (SW)		
Prepared by	Anna Lewandowska	Date	21/02/2018

Agenda Item	Subject
1	Welcome and introductions CD introduced herself as the incoming GHEAR chair and welcomed all. Attendance by steering committee members was thin.
2	Confirmation of minutes and matters arising
Notes	Minutes from the last meetings are not available, hence no actions or matters arising could be reviewed. Should the minutes become available before the next meeting in Perth, they will be reviewed then. JH drew everyone's attention to the GHEAR Position Paper written by former Chair - Joe Berger. CD noted the importance of the theme of the last GHEAR workshop ' <i>Sustainable Development Goals for Higher Education</i> '.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AL to continue to look for the last meeting minutes. ▪ AL to continue to try to find outputs from the workshop to inform future strategy.
3	RDF 2018 – 2-minute summaries from GHEAR awardees and the next steps
Notes	Two RDF awardees were invited to the teleconference to talk about their proposals funded through the GHEAR Global Challenge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Suzanne Wijsman, UWA introduced the project she is leading on, entitled 'Health Education Access and Mobility for Musicians: A global approach'. The project partners include: U Sydney, Maastricht, Alberta, Auckland, Cape Town and a non-WUN partner - Lethbridge University (Canada). The aim of the project is to build an interdisciplinary global collaboration to address an issue of health education mobility and health literacy for musicians. Music making is psychologically and physically demanding, this is why the health education needs to be better embedded into teaching of musicians particularly in the HE setting. Two workshop are planned, one in April 2018 at UWA and the second one in Maastricht in August 2018. ▪ CD asked SW what in her view was the value added of the Network, SW said that

	<p>the opportunity to bring researchers together thanks to the existing network is invaluable to brain storm ideas and pull resources together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prof Qinhua Xu, Renmin University, who is leading on the project entitled ‘The Belt and Road Green development: International Culture, Climate Change, Energy Investment and Environmental Protection’ was unable to attend.
4	<p>GHEAR Research Themes – discussion of strengths, gaps and relevance to the SDGs and other policy frameworks</p>
Notes	<p>CD invited JH to provide a warm up to the discussion about the GHEAR research agenda, including points raised during a meeting CD and JH had attended the previous day in Leeds.</p> <p>JH said that he is not keen on the top down approach and hopes that the group will come up with 2-3 major research themes with SDGs in mind to decide on priorities for the next 3-5 years. JH referred to the Annual Report, which lists the 18 projects funded through GHEAR and mentioned the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reform requirements for universities for the next 3-5 years to remain relevant to society, how do universities internationalise and deliver ▪ Modern curriculum, skills and jobs ▪ Mobility of UGs and PGs ▪ English - how one needs to do better in terms of English as a language of engagement ▪ Assess and equity ▪ Interdisciplinarity in higher education and research <p>JH suggested two actions for consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to conduct a mapping study by sending minutes of this meeting to all WUN Coordinators and to ask what is important to them 2) to decide on the priority themes and the role of the global network <p>The mapping study was further discussed, as a means of trying to identify where international development is done at WUN universities. CD stressed the need for ToR for the mapping study and others felt that the purpose of the mapping was not entirely clear.</p> <p><u>Discussion about the remit of GHEAR - inward vs outward outlook</u></p> <p>CD raised an issue of a particular remit of GHEAR, which is not clear in her view – is GHEAR about HE institutions themselves and how do they internationalise and prepare for the future?</p> <p>ST pointed out that over the past few years there has been a move from thinking about GHEAR in terms of the HE itself towards a question of how HE intuitions contribute to the wider society as this seems to link more strongly with SDGs, particularly the SDG 4, which mentions issues like access and equity, but also talks about global citizenship, appreciation of cultural diversity and cultural contribution to sustainable development. ST said that she, also through the work done at U Bristol, would be more interested in looking into relation between Global North and South, decolonisation of curriculum etc., therefore an outward rather than inward outlook of GHEAR.</p> <p>CD asked whether it is an either/or situation for ST, who responded that not necessarily, however GHEAR needs to decide priorities, doing a little bit of everything may diffuse the research agenda.</p>

	<p>SW asked how priority areas are established for the group and how they are articulated to the member institutions and taken up at the local level. JH explained that the GHEAR Steering Group experts are empowered to establish the priority areas, and make a decision that the specific areas are the ones, where GHEAR can make a difference at the global and local level. JH also expressed a concern that historically HE research was not progressing as quickly as it could, particularly with 23 universities on board. JH also mentioned the Polity Research Group (Think Tank established at Renmin University). The strong focus of this group is HE research and thinking about how does WUN advise on critical policy issues that should be developed for HE and research, and what are the research gaps that WUN needs to focus on.</p> <p>CD echoed JH’s comment, by mentioning that she has recently attended an event in Nairobi, where she heard many concerns raised by African partners about how universities exploit the impact area of research and influence the global policy and she felt that this is a one potential area for the research agenda.</p> <p>TS pointed out that access and participation should not be ignored, but GHEAR needs to be distinctive, otherwise it will not attract academics strengths. SDGs should be used as a guide. CD agreed with this point and felt that another research theme emerging is: how SDG are relevant to universities research agenda and how they become embedded into the research agenda.</p> <p>CD raised a point on how to measure the progress on the SDGs and what tertiary expertise there is to measure the qualitative and quantitative progress on SDGs.</p> <p>JH pointed out that WUN should not be restricted by the SDG agenda but within the SDG agenda there is a framework for evaluation.</p> <p>BG pointed out that to have the position paper would be invaluable in order to engage in a richer discussion. CD will be drafting a position paper to present in Perth at the SG meeting.</p> <p>SJ pointed out that all the paperwork should be on Sosius. When U Bristol was leading the group this is where the documents were stored. SJ also gave a historical overview of the group; Joe Berger changed the group’s focus towards HE researchers.</p> <p>TS mentioned that there has always been a creative tension between the outward/inward outlook of the group, she was not suggesting that the GHEAR looks into the wider society per se, but HE beyond institutional walls is what she has in mind.</p> <p>CD suggested that in addition to the SDG 4, the group could focus on the SDG 10 (Reducing inequalities). A major theme derived from the SDG 10 could be production and reproduction of inequalities, and how universities network to reduce inequalities. This was met with the overall approval.</p> <p>To conclude, CD said that over the next two weeks she will be awaiting email suggestions from the group members to inform the Position Paper.</p>
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AL/CD to work together with SJ to assemble a full repository of GHEAR documents ▪ CD to draft a Position Paper to present in Perth ▪ All to share ideas with CD to inform drafting of the Position Paper
5	Update from the Secretariat
Notes	In the interest of time MH referred all to consult the WUN webpage to find out

	<p>information about the structure and lengths of meetings in Perth.</p> <p>JH pointed out that GHEAR should use all resources at the WUN's disposal to move the research agenda forward.</p>
6	Widening participation – membership review, inviting new WUN members
Notes	CD's aim is to review the membership of the SG to address the gender distribution and include newer WUN members. CD asked whether there are <i>terms of office</i> for the group – JH explained that at the moment it is the 'coalition of the willing'.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CD to ask all members whether they wish to remain in the group or nominate colleagues and to expand membership by inviting new WUN members. ▪ AL to circulate minutes to steering group members to stimulate discussion.
7	Next steps and actions
Notes	CD summarised issues and action points raised during the meeting.
8	AOB
Notes	No other issues were raised and the meeting concluded.

Date and time of next meeting

23rd May 2018, UWA, Perth