WORLDWIDE UNIVERSITIES NETWORK
Highlights & Achievements 2017-18

• Leadership Transition
• New draft position paper
• Aligning GHEAR to sustainable development commitments
Global Challenge Statement

At the core of GHEAR is a vision of inclusive, high quality 21st century universities that contribute to the global commitment to sustainable development.

• GHEAR seeks to promote through research and scholarship the ongoing development of equitable, contextually relevant, high quality and accessible higher education throughout the world; and
• to investigate and learn about the interactions among the drivers, policies, institutional infrastructure, human capacities, resources, and outcomes that are associated with this overall aim.

This set of inter-related issues is simultaneously the most important goal, biggest challenge, and most significant policy priority for tertiary educational institutions and systems around the world.

Addressing how best to maximize the value of higher education in response to this complex challenge requires better understanding of the interaction among the drivers, policies, institutional infrastructure, human capacities, resources and outcomes associated with the ongoing global development of higher education.
Value Proposition

The Global Higher Education and Research Group (GHEAR) provides a future-oriented global network spanning six continents that focuses on addressing the most urgent challenges related to improving the value of higher education to individuals, communities, nations, and the world – all in the context of a global commitment to sustainable development.
Focus Areas 2018/19

Inclusive, high quality 21st century universities contributing to the global commitment to sustainable development. Close focus on fragile states, mobile and marginalised populations (including refugees and indigenous people), and challenges of developing contextually responsive higher education.

- Building strong institutions
- Research frontiers
- Engagement and impact
GHEAR

Building strong institutions

- Equity/access/participation
- Jobs/skills
- Policy interaction
- GHEAR across the GCs and regional groups

Inclusive, high quality 21st century universities

- Internationalisation
- Networks
- Multi-disciplinarity
- Mobility
- Governance and talent
- Curriculum reform

Engagement and impact

- Role of HE research in society
- SDGs and socio-economic frameworks
- What is the future of research?

Research frontiers

Building strong institutions

Inclusive, high quality 21st century universities

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Engagement and impact

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Research frontiers
GHEAR

Action Plan & Outcomes

• Finalize Programmatic Research Agenda (May/June)
• Rejuvenate the GHEAR steering committee
• Recruit and establish research teams from across WUN (June/July)
• Cultivate targeted proposals for RDF (July/August)
• Hold Autumn Meeting focusing on 1-2 research projects and associated reports (October)
• Develop at least one externally sponsored research proposal involving multiple WUN partners (by 2019 AGM)
• Support existing projects (ongoing)
• Sharpen reporting to support dissemination strategies and impact assessment (ongoing)
The steering group is being reviewed

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Prof Martin Paul, Maastricht, PB Chair
Prof John Hearn, Sydney, Exec Director
A/Prof Barbara Grant, Auckland, Expert
Prof Harm Hospers, Maastricht, Expert
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