

Meeting Agenda & Papers



Meeting	WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge Steering Group (UCSG)
Date	Wednesday 23 May 2018
Location	University Club of Western Australia – Seminar Room 2

Item	Time	Subject	Sponsor	Attachment reference
1.	10.30-10.40	Welcome and introduction	Chair	
2.	10.40-11.00	Steering Group membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation thematically and across the network • Members commitment to the Steering Group • Establishment of a small Working Group of Steering Group members? 	Chair	1
3.	11.00-11.30	Position Paper	Chair	2
4.	11.30-12.00	Report from 2017-18 priority programs: priorities and future opportunities	Chair	3
5.	12.00-13.00	Lunch		
6.	13.00-13.30	Identification of 2018-19 Priority Areas	Chair	4
7.	13.30-14.00	Collaboration across other WUN groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Challenges • Regional, Thematic and Policy groups 	Chair	
7.	14.00-14.15	Preparation of Plenary presentation	Chair	
8.		Any other business		

Meeting Minutes and Actions



Meeting	WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge Steering Group		
Date	25/26 January 2018		
Location	Teleconference		
Participants	Dr Tore Sætersdal (Bergen), Chair Dr Ann Singleton (Bristol), Vice-Chair Dr Heather Zwicker (Alberta) Prof Hildegard Schneider (Maastricht) Ms Eleonora Gandolfi (Southampton) Dr Susan Jim (Bristol) Assoc Prof Judith Berman (Western Australia) Ms Wilna Venter (Cape Town) Mr Bjørn Erik Andersen (Bergen) Mr Mike Hasenmueller – (WUN Secretariat)		
Apologies	Prof Loretta Baldassar (Western Australia) Dr Catriona Elder (Sydney) Prof Frank Finlay (Leeds) Assoc Prof Susanna Trnka (Auckland) Prof Lin Ka (Zhejiang) Associate Professor Peng-Shing Wu (NCKU) Prof Nicola Piper (Sydney) Mr Matthew Louie (Sydney)		
Prepared by	Bjørn Erik Andersen	Date	14 February 2018

Subject
1. Welcome and introduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies noted – see above.
2. Review of September 2017 meeting Minutes and Action s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes from the previous meeting 14/15 September 2017 were confirmed.
3. Report from the Secretariat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University College Dublin has accepted invitation to become new WUN member. They are currently identifying representatives to the different WUN groups. John Hearn is stepping down as WUN Executive Director after the AGM in Perth. Announcement for new WUN Executive Director and Team from July 31st, 2018, is now out and the different WUN governance groups have been informed. The WUN working group on undergraduate education has delivered its report on recommendations for a WUN undergraduate research mobility program (attachment 3 reference for this item).

4. GC Understanding Cultures

Revised Statement

- Following up decision at the Steering Group meeting in September 2017, the Steering Group members were invited to send suggestions for revision of the GC Understanding Cultures to the Chair. Based on feedback received, the Chair developed a revised statement of the GC Understanding Cultures. The revised statement (and the original statement) were forwarded to the Steering Group members for consideration (attachment 4 reference for this item).

Position Paper

- The Chair informed that he was working on a revised draft position paper for the GC Understanding Cultures. When ready, the position paper will be circulated to the Steering Group member for comments and suggestion for any changes.
- There is a wish to introduce indigenous culture and heritage in the position paper. It was commented that the notice of indigenous is not very welcome in some countries, for instance in South-Africa. This must be taken into consideration when formulating the position paper. The comment was noted by the Chair.

Steering Group membership

- Professor Brian Loader from York is stepping down as member of the Steering Group. He has been expert member of the group since May 2013.
- Question was raised if there are any gaps of thematic or expertise in the group. One should be aware of that and maybe consider to invite someone from the new RDF projects to join the group?

Actions:

- The revised statement was approved as the new GC Understanding Cultures Statement.
- A revised draft Position Paper will be developed by the Chair and circulated to the Steering Group members prior to the next meeting at the AGM in Perth.

5. 2018 AGM & Academic Workshop

Input to agenda for the GC Understanding Cultures Steering Group meeting at the AGM

- Organisation of the steering group will be an important item on the agenda at the next meeting in Perth.
One model to be considered should be the establishment of a small executive/working group of 5-6 people (including Chair and Vice-Chair) that could engage more deeply and meet more often and regularly to bring the WUN GC Understanding Cultures work forward.
At the same time we will keep a comprehensive Steering Group as of today, with broad representation from the network and expertise on thematic, who meet 2-3 times per year.

Understanding Cultures academic workshop at the AGM

- The Understanding Cultures academic workshop – “*Cultures in flux: Migration and cultural dynamics in the past and present*” – will take place 20-22 May at the University Club of Western Australia in conjunction with the WUN AGM. The workshop also includes a half day excursion. Draft agenda for the workshop can be downloaded from the [WUN AGM website](#)

6. Research Development Fund awards 2017

- Tore Saetersdal (Chair) and Ann Singleton (Vice-Chair) participated in the evaluation of RDF proposals related to cultural heritage and migration.
- Many good proposals, and encouraging results for the GC Understanding Cultures collaboration: 8 projects related to GC Understanding Cultures thematic and 3 projects with GC Understanding Cultures thematic only.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging to see so many transdisciplinary projects. Good argument for working across the Global Challenges and groups.
<p>7. Research Groups</p> <p><i>Heritage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair participated the ICOMOS conference in Delhi. ICOMOS is a huge international NGO dedicated to world's monuments and sites and giving recommendations to UNESCO. The Chair recommends to approach ICOMOS to discuss a collaboration on cultural heritage and maybe enter a formal agreement between WUN and ICOMOS after the agreement model on migration between WUN and IOM. • The Chair met with the Chair of the WUN Africa Group. Were discussing how to work for more and better interaction between the Understanding Cultures and the Africa groups. • Hildegard Schneider is preparing an application on illegal trade in arts to the EU H2020 call. She collaborates with UNESCO and invites interested members in WUN to join the application. <p><i>Migration</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vice-Chair is working closely with OECD on migration and is member of committee. A Global Migration Data Portal has been launched. • Global Partnership for Sustainable Development festival in Bristol in March. • Hildegard Schneider got accepted a H2020 application on migration
<p>8. Update on conferences, workshops etc. in 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about upcoming conferences, workshops, summer schools etc. should be communicated to the Chair and shared with the Steering Group members. • A national conference on the role of universities and the 17 UN SDGs will be hosted by the University of Bergen in February. Many distinguished national and international speakers will attend the conference • Summer School on migration in Bristol 7-12 July. Partners from Hong Kong are invited to give presentations on Older people and migration and Disability and migration.
<p>9. Any other business</p>

Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 23 May, 2018
University Club of Western Australia, Perth

ATTACHMENT 1

Global Challenge Steering Group – Understanding Cultures

February 2018

Group email: u_cultures_sg@lists.wun.ac.uk

Steering Group Member	University	Affiliation	Member since
Chair –Dr. Tore Saetersdal	The University of Bergen	Expert (Leader Heritage theme)	August 2017
Mr Bjørn Erik Andersen	The University of Bergen	Coordinator Lead	August 2017
Vice Chair Anne Singleton	The University of Bristol	Expert (Leader Migration theme)	August 2017
Prof Loretta Baldassar	The University of Western Australia	Expert	June 2015
Dr Catriona Elder	The University of Sydney	Expert	Nov 2011
Associate Professor Fraser Sturt	The University of Southampton	Expert	February 2018
Professor Frank Finlay	The University of Leeds	Expert	April 2014
A/Prof Susanna Trnka Deputy: Prof Robin Kearns	The University of Auckland	Expert	Sept 2017
Professor Ka Lin	Zhejiang University	Expert	May 2011
Associate Professor Wu, Ping-Sheng	National Cheng Kung University	Expert	April 2017
Professor Nicola Piper	The University of Sydney	Expert	Sept 2014
Professor Hildegard Schneider	Maastricht University	Expert	June 2014
Dr Heather Zwicker	The University of Alberta	Expert	August 2014

Assoc Professor Judith Berman	The University of Western Australia	Coordinator	April 2015
Mr Matthew Louie	The University of Sydney	Coordinator	August 2017
Ms Wilna Venter	The University of Cape Town	Coordinator	April 2014
Ms Eleonora Gandolfi	The University of Southampton	Coordinator	April 2015
Dr Susan Jim	The University of Bristol	Coordinator	April 2015

**Reports on achievements, status and futures of the
Global Challenge Steering Groups**

Position Papers



**Global Challenge Steering Group
Strategic Review Position Paper**

DRAFT

Directions	<p>A fundamental review of WUN, to evolve and be fit for future purpose and priorities, is in progress. Consultations for options, opinions and data, including governance representatives and the internal and external stakeholders of WUN, will be presented at the Annual Conference and AGM in New York on 3-5 May 2017. The future directions and priorities of WUN will form the sinews of the new Strategic Plan, formulated and implemented in 2017-18. This includes the research, education and mobility programs, function of board and secretariat, and funding strategies.</p> <p>In order to fully engage the Global Challenge Groups, who are the main base of WUN activities, we request that you prepare a short position paper that summarises at high level, (i) major achievements of WUN in 2013-16, (ii) and major priorities 2017-20, and (iii) the top five papers, grants and outcomes over the past three years.</p> <p>ACTION: So that this may be considered alongside other Strategic Review input, we ask that you please consult your respective steering groups and complete the form below, submitting the final agreed draft immediately after your January teleconference.</p>
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Global Challenge: Name of Global Challenge

Understanding Cultures

Summary objectives and rationale: Why is your Global Challenge an appropriate area of primary focus for WUN, and why should it continue to be so? (maximum 200 words)

Through strong links with key national and international agencies and global datasets, our world leading experts from across all continents, in Migration, China studies, Africa, Heritage (including indigenous heritage and preserving heritage through digital cultures) have the capacity to produce cutting edge, evidence-based research that will inform impactful and socially beneficial policy and practice.

Current Status: Outline major directions, priorities, programs (IRGs), workshops, and achievements. from 2013-15. (maximum 500 words) [Total word count = 827](#)

General background

The research agenda of the WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge is shaped by a concern with how profound globalization trends such as a more integrated transnational economic system, the rise of global communications networks, increasing levels of population mobility, the advent of international consumer brands, and widening social inequalities are challenging national, regional and individual cultural practices. Deeper understanding of these challenges for cultural changes is necessary to inform effective policy-making and implementation.

Achievements

A) Conferences, workshops, and other

2015 Interdisciplinary Migration conference, CUHK

2015 Digital Cultures Conference, AGM Hong Kong

2015 Web Observatory meeting, Southampton.

2016 Global Adjustments to China's Growth Transition conference (Robertson), UWA, Global China and Economics

2016 Migration Conference, Maastricht, focusing on: Irregular Migration – refugees/ illegal/ forced; Labour Migration

2016 Migration, Development and Global Transformations (MDGT) (Singleton), Bristol

Heritage mapping study of WUN members.

IOM internship, Singleton, 6 months. Aim to extend the Bristol- IOM relationship to all WUN members.

B) Research outputs and research funding

A special themed issue of the *Journal for Mixed Methods Research (JMMR)* was launched in July 2016 – this is an outcome of the Hong Kong Migration conference. The issue includes an editorial relating to the WUN Migration conference and its outcomes, and a contribution from Frank Laczko, Head of Migration Research Division, International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Chilton, E. & R. Mason (2010) A Call for a Social Science of the Past. [NSF White Paper](#).

A Special edition of the *Journal of Information, Communication and Society*, 2016., vol. 19, no.1.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1369118X.2015.1094114>

Alistair Paterson's UWA led 'Archeology of the Indian ocean' RDF (2012-13) led to many publications, a number of prestigious grants, including an ARC Linkage grant to the value of UWA \$489,368.00, an ARC Discovery Project worth \$1,175,000 and most recently, a Future Fellowship.

Research Priorities

***Migration** – 1) to build a collaborative network of WUN migration scholars to respond to the new research and policy challenges being raised by the post 2015 global development agenda, which will include migration across several of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 2) to work with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) which provides resources and research for governments in implementing the SDGs. Through this link, to open up internship opportunities for PhD students and staff in the IOM's Global Migration Data Analytics Centre 3) research focus - to extend the evidence base on hidden forms of migration (the most vulnerable and under research migrants) through globally comparable research.

***Heritage** (including indigenous heritage, and preserving heritage through digital cultures)

One of the core components of cultural identity for both individuals and societies is heritage—that is, the relevance of the past in the present. The key relevance of heritage to the UC Global Challenge is the implications of people's connections to their pasts for social and economic stability and the overall wellness of individuals, communities, and nations.

Three subthemes within heritage studies are particularly relevant to both the UC global challenge and the strengths of the WUN member institutions as derived from the mapping study. These are global issues that require international, interdisciplinary research teams to address:

(1) Urbanization: during the next 50 years, the world will be facing unprecedented urbanization and the changes that will bring for communities and societies. WUN can work with international bodies such as UNESCO to consider the role of cultural heritage in various forms of public participation, norms and practices to create sustainable urban environments.

(2) Heritage & Displacement: while we know that millions of people are either currently displaced or will be displaced in the coming years, there has been little focused research on how the promotion of heritage could mitigate against the trauma and threats to cultural memory, ontological security, a core belief system, and overall wellbeing that result from such displacements. A strong sense of heritage has been demonstrated to be a key to a healthy sense of identity in the present, and a means of coping with an uncertain future.

(3) Digital Heritage: One of the major changes in critical heritage studies worldwide is the recognition that cultural heritage should not be only a collection of relics from the past that are studied and curated by historiographical experts. Instead, there has been a new focus on the importance of local participation in defining heritage values and in actively promoting and safeguarding heritage. As such, and recognizing the diasporic nature of many cultural groups, there has been an increasing emphasis on digital methods for public participation and access to heritage collections (audio and visual recordings, objects, crowd sourcing historical documents, archives, research, etc.). A number of WUN members have expressed a strong level of expertise and interest in digital heritage and digital humanities. There is a great need for better understanding how digital technologies can changes our views of the past and how they can shape the future.

Working together on these issues in an international context provides the opportunity to make lasting and significant contributions to the Understanding Cultures Global Challenge.

Future Directions: What are your predicted priorities for the next three years?

How might the global environment might affect this?

What work should grow and/or be added? What should be reduced and/or stopped?

(maximum 500 words)

The most logical way forward for the UC GC for the next three years is to go with the GC's current momentum and further develop the key themes of the forthcoming meeting at Amherst which will focus on 'The Role of Heritage in Migration and Displacement'.

In general, the UN, UNESCO, and international development bank projects have focused on the protection of tangible heritage, particularly immovable tangible heritage. **The conference aims to focus on a significant research gap** – participating researchers will look beyond the preservation of heritage to ask ***how the re-establishment and promotion of heritage and heritage/cultural participation through physical and digital means might mitigate against the trauma and threats to cultural memory, ontological security, a core belief system, and overall wellbeing that result from climate and conflict driven migration and displacement.*** Three major research areas are ripe for interdisciplinary and international attention: (1) basic research on the importance and value of cultural heritage for social, ecological, economic and physical/mental well-being, (2) the application of such research to international policy and (3) exploration of the potential of emerging digital technologies for new forms of cultural expression and meaning making.

However, while millions of people are either currently displaced or will be displaced on a global scale in the coming years, there has been little focused research on how the re-establishment and promotion of heritage and heritage/cultural participation through physical and digital means mitigates against the trauma and threats

to cultural memory, ontological security, a core belief system, and overall wellbeing that result from such displacements.

A major goal of the workshop would be to formulate an agenda for the WUN in its approach to the role of heritage in the Understanding Cultures Global Challenge, and in the WUN Global Challenges more broadly.

The key relevance of heritage to the UC Global Challenge is the implications of people's connections to their pasts for social and economic stability and the overall wellness of individuals, communities, and nations. But the implications of heritage for public health, climate change, and higher education are also clear. The interdisciplinary and burgeoning field of heritage studies is uniquely poised to address some of the global challenges in social and economic stability and well-being.

The other UC priority areas - Migration, digital cultures and indigenous heritage – will not be dropped; they will simply be incorporated into the dominant Heritage theme.

Relevance of heritage to the Public health GC - A strong sense of heritage has been demonstrated to be a key to a healthy sense of identity and overall wellness of individuals and societies in the present.

Relevance of heritage to the Responding to Climate Change (RCC) - millions of people are either currently displaced as a result of conflicts and more will be displaced on a global scale in the coming years as a result of conflicts and climate change.

The key relevance of heritage to the GHEAR Global Challenge -

In this way, the UC GC could potentially bring together aspects of all four global challenges and also incorporate cross cutting themes of economics, Africa and China.

Note: We do not recommend reverting to a call for RDF proposals which fall under the broad UC theme. Indeed, our preference is to focus in on only one or two priority areas and to subsume under these major themes the other UC related areas of WUN expertise.

Data: Indicate your Global Challenge group's

- Five top publications;
- Five top grants;
- Leading strategic workshops;
- Key points of influence;
- Sustainable programs that have or are currently emerging (e.g. Critical Zones, Migration; Ageing Health, Higher Education Access, etc);
- Top think tank contributions.

(maximum 500 words)

Collect data from the Understanding Cultures IRGs annual reports.

Other comments: Enter any further relevant comments in this section. This may include, but need to be limited to, outlining interaction with other Global Challenges and/or Cross-cutting Themes. (maximum 200 words)

***UC GC cross-cutting themes: Economics, Africa, China**

Global Africa Group strategic plan 2016-18

A key approach guiding the Strategic Plan is to position and support our three African university members as '*regional hubs*' to link local-regional-global expertise and to marry associated research agendas and priorities. This first part of this is to hold a Strategic Research Workshop at the University of Ghana in early February 2017, which would directly connect WUN GAG and wider West African researchers with the objective of identifying and developing collaborative project proposals for seed and then full funding. Along with the regional hubs model, the other core component of our approach is *mobility* – directly connecting researchers within WUN and across Africa.

Research priorities: environmental change and food security, public health, governance, inequality and social inclusion, higher education and research capacity and natural resources for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

ATTACHMENT 3

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y			
	Title	Principal Investigator	GC	ALB	AUK	BER	BRI	UFMG	CUHK	GHA	LEE	MAA	NAI	NCKU	REN	ROC	SHE	SOU	SYD	TEC	UCT	UMAS	UWA	YRK	ZJU			
2	African Solutions to African Problems- Translating Indigenous Systems, Plants and Microbial Biodiversity into Drug Candidates for Neglected Tropical Diseases	Dorcas Osei-Safo	PH																									
3	Health Education Access and Mobility for Musicians: A global approach	Suzanne Wijsman	GHEAR/PH/UC																									
4	Facilitating international research collaboration between economists working on the integration of renewable generation into electricity markets	David Brown	RCC																									
5	The Role of Big Data in Addressing the Determinants of Non-communicable Diseases in the Ageing Era	Simon Poon	PH																									
6	Resilient Peace: Exploring resilient peacebuilding actors, cultures and policy transfer in West Africa	Ana E. Juncos	UC																									
7	Marriage Migrants in Asia	Su-lin Yu	UC																									
8	Communicating Good Health and Wellbeing: Promotion, Advocacy and Resilience	Rob Cover	PH/UC																									
9	The effectiveness of health service/investment interventions aimed at reducing inequalities in health among older people in China: a longitudinal study	Zhixin Feng	PH																									
10	Impact of ocean warming and acidification on marine fish production	Joy Becker	RCC																									
11	An Intersectional Exploration of Religion and Gender-Based Violence: A Case Study of Accra in Global Context	George Ossom-Batsa	UC																									
12	The trans-nationalisation of indigenous movements: The role of digital technologies	Michael Myers	RCC/UC																									
13	Wind or Solar? The Political Economy of Fuel Competition between Renewables	Yuan Xu	RCC																									
14	Social innovation and elderly care	Ka Lin	PH/UC																									
15	"The Belt and Road" Green Development: International Culture, Climate Change, Energy Investment and Environmental Protection	Qinhua Xu	GHEAR/PH/UC/RCC																									
16	Title	Principal Investigator	GC	ALB	AUK	BER	BRI	UFMG	CUHK	GHA	LEE	MAA	NAI		REN	ROC	SHE	SOU	SYD	TEC	UCT	UMAS	UWA	YRK	ZJU			
17	Key																											
18	Lead university																											
19	Partner university																											

ATTACHMENT 4

Statement – GC Understanding Cultures

The **WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge** facilitates interdisciplinary research for understanding the role of culture in a rapidly changing world and its importance for sustainable development and Agenda 2030.

By culture we mean the collective expression of humans exhibited and enacted through patterns of behaviour and discursive practices performed by groups of individuals, or made manifest through artefacts that are endowed with meaning, transmitted over time and through space, and are subject to constant criticism and modification. .

The research agenda of the WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge is shaped by a concern with how profound globalization trends such as the rise of global communications and social networks, increasing levels of population mobility, and widening social inequalities are challenging national, regional and individual cultural practices in all levels of society. Deeper understanding of these challenges for cultural changes is necessary to inform effective policy-making and implementation. A growing literature on culture and philosophy of non-European traditions is coming out of indigenous perspectives from various areas and gives new insights and perspectives on the changes that are occurring in today's world.

The focus of the WUN Understanding Cultures Global Challenge in 2017-18 is on: migration and population, two-way understanding of China and Africa, the role of culture in sustainable development (Agenda 2030) and indigenous peoples and societies.