



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF  
RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

## **IARU Presidents' Meeting 2016**

University of Oxford

25 – 26 April 2016

## **Executive Summaries**

**Note**

This paper contains the Executive Summaries of the reports and papers prepared for the 2016 Presidents' Meeting held in Oxford on 25 - 26 April 2016. The summaries herein contained refer to the original reports and papers as included in the meeting Tome.

## Presidents' Meeting 2016 - Executive Summaries

### Session 1: Presidents' Regional Round-up (no paper)

### Session 2: Continuing and Distance Education (Topical Session)

*Prof. Angus Hawkins, Acting Director, Department for Continuing Education, Oxford.*  
*Mr. Keith Zimmerman, University Secretary, The Open University, UK.*

Many leading universities enroll thousands of “non-traditional” students, who may be returning to education later in life, studying part-time or at a distance, and/or seeking to gain specific skills rather than a full degree. (Tome Page 17)

### Session 3: IARU Chairperson 2017-2018

President Hemmingsen took over as IARU Chair on 1 January 2015. He will relinquish this position with his retirement on 31 December 2016. The term of office of the IARU Chair is 2 years and is renewable. The Presidents' will elect the 2017-2018 Chairperson.

### Session 4: IARU Sustainability Activities

#### 4.4 Report of the Sustainable Campus Initiative

**Lead:** University of Copenhagen

#### **Executive summary**

The IARU Sustainable Campus Initiative group has over the last year been building on the past 3 years considerable joint achievements demonstrating leadership on the global university sustainability agenda. The IARU Green Guide for Universities has continuously achieved considerable international attention and has in 2015 been translated to Japanese by Tokyo University.

Highlights of IARU sustainability achievements are presented in the IARU 10 year anniversary film.

The IARU institutions have made real headway on individual and joint efforts on university sustainability. The Presidents Statement on sustainability from 2009 has been reviewed and revised proposal has been developed via a considerable hearing process within the IARU institutions and is presented for approval. The IARU presidents Statement will frame joint IARU efforts on sustainability for the years to come.

The IARU Global Universities Climate Forum with YALE as the lead held a very successful event in Paris in relation to the COP21 and has now entered the virtual stage. +130 students from around the world is currently engaged sustainability projects on their own campuses and beyond and will over 2016 share progress, experienced and challenges via an online platform.

A stronger collaboration with International Sustainable Campus Initiative (ISCN) has been established leading to mutual benefits and holds the potential for further joint efforts. The IARU SCI group will present IARU activities and best practice on international student engagement at the ISCN

conference in Siena, June 2016. Here possibilities for further collaboration and joint activities between IARU SCI and ISCN will be explored.

The Annual Sustainable Campus Initiative meeting will be held in Siena prior to the ISCN meeting. The annual meeting will be a cornerstone in development in IARU SCI program and activities for next two years.

**The Tome contains:** Overview of IARU Sustainability Activities, IARU Statement for Sustainability, IARU Global University Climate Forum report, Sustainable Fellowship Exchange Program. (Page 25).

<b>Items for decision</b>	Approval of IARU Statement for Sustainability
<b>Funding request</b>	No new requests for funding, as funding for current projects and activities has been approved at PM 2015.

## Session 5: Selected IARU Running Initiatives

### 5.1 Women and Men in Globalizing Universities

**Lead:** Oxford University, Prof. Rebecca Surender; ETH Zurich, Prof. Dr. Renate Schubert

#### Executive summary

In the end of June 2015, nine out of the ten IARU Universities (Copenhagen was missing) participated in the “Gender Working Group” meeting at Oxford. We had intense, trustful and effective discussions on the following topics:

- Comparative gender monitoring on PTEM (Physical science, technology, engineering and maths; excluding biological and medical studies due to differences between institutions)
- Gender gap in educational attainment, especially during the first year(s) of studying
- Defining and identifying areas of “good practice” that could work at several IARU Universities, including an analysis of the factors responsible for more/less of an impact. The role of targets was of special importance in this discussion
- How is the “success” of Universities defined, who plays a role in this definition, which gender aspects are involved and how could changes in the notion of “success” be brought about? These discussions involved university rankings as well as award granting
- Measures to recruit more women to full professorships and to increase the retain rate, including the role of gender differences in preferred sub-disciplines
- Measures to encourage more school girls into science

Furthermore there was an exchange about recent gender-related developments and current key topics in the different institutions, enabling the group to better understand cross-institutional differences in gender-related strategies and measures.

Athena Swan procedures and the respective impacts had also been discussed.

The group decided to meet more often (every year instead of every two years) in order to be able to learn from each other’s experiences and to use the momentum for quicker changes within the IARU

Universities.

In addition, staff exchange for 1-3 months should be encouraged which would need some resources and some assistance within the Universities.

An assessment of gender practices based on a well-designed survey with qualitative and quantitative aspects should be initiated. This assessment will be carried out by IARU co-financed student helpers, as approved at the 2015 Senior Officers' Meeting.

Finally, on a 5-years cycle, comparable data on gender figures at the different IARU institutions as well as on student performance should be collected and assessed and recommendations for further improvements should be derived. This evaluation will also be supported by IARU co-financed student helpers.

**The Tome contains:** Progress Report, Program of the 5th workshop, June 2015. (Page 45)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Discuss and define “success” of gender related measures at IARU Universities.
<b>Funding request</b>	USD 8,000      Annual Workshop 2017

## 5.2 IARU Joint Online Course

**Lead:** University of California, Berkeley (Prof. Pradeep Chibber); University of Tokyo (Prof. Kiichi Fujiwara)

### Executive summary

The IARU joint program will focus on State Fragility and Peacemaking through a joint effort of faculties from four institutions, University of California Berkeley, University of Cambridge, National University of Singapore, and University of Tokyo. Through a hybrid of joint teaching and individual teaching, the classes will take place in each of the four campuses, and will be included in the academic calendar as credit-giving courses, starting from October 2016. Through the use of jointly developed course materials as well as transnational assignments and classes, this course is expected to provide students the fruit of the cross-national teaching based on the IARU network.

**The Tome contains:** Progress Report. (Page 53)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding request</b>	Approved at SOM 2015; no new funding requested.

## Session 6: Key Updates on IARU Institutional Joint Working Initiatives

### 6.1 Alumni Associations Network

**Lead:** Australian National University

#### Executive summary

The seventh Alumni Associations' Summit was held in October 2015 at The Australian National University (ANU). The Summit was held over four days at ANU with a program focused on discussion areas including alumni engagement metrics and the integration of alumni and philanthropic programs.

The Summit provided an opportunity for detailed discussion by participants on the next meeting which will follow the IARU Presidents' meeting at the University of Oxford in April.

Agreement was also reached by all participants on the event format of the IARU Presidents' Panel and networking drinks on Sunday 24 April at the University of Oxford.

**The Tome contains:** Progress Report, Participants to the 2015 Summit, Program of the 2015 Summit. (Page 61)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding request</b>	No funding requested.

### 6.2 Global Transformation in IARU Member Strategies

**Lead:** Dr. Barbara Becker, ETH Zurich

#### Executive summary

The purpose of the Global Transformation (GT) initiative is to understand and analyze how IARU institutions engage with developing countries or emerging economies and draw conclusions for potential collective action.

A first workshop took place on 3–5 May 2015 at ETH Zurich. The aim was to share and discuss the partners' experiences. Preceding the workshop, IARU members had participated in a survey on their relations with developing countries.

The GT group agreed that the topic needed further attention within IARU and wants to continue the collective exploration of ideas for action and the elaboration of a concept paper.

The GT group will meet again at UCT from 2-3 May, 2016 to agree on the implementation of suggested activities, for which the SOM has approved funding.

In addition, the GT group submitted a proposal for the 10<sup>th</sup> IARU anniversary: a IARU presentation on Global Transformation at the Going Global Conference in May 2016 at Cape Town, to be given by Professor Ellís Ferran, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Cambridge. The SOM concluded that IARU members of the GT group meeting in Cape Town will be able to attend the "Going Global" conference, if that matches their plans. Senior Officers approved the request for funding of up to 5,000 USD for covering Prof. Ellís Ferran full participation costs as representing the Alliance. The organizers of Going Global confirmed the participation of Ellís Ferran in the conference program.

**The Tome contains:** Programme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GT workshop, 2-3 May 2016; Report of the 1st GT Workshop, 3-5 May 2015; Draft Concept Paper. (Page 71)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding Request</b>	Approved at SOM 2015; no new funding requested.

### 6.3 International Student Teaching & Support

**Lead:** Lynda Mathey, Australian National University

#### Executive summary

Following discussion of International Student Teaching and Support at the November 2013 and 2014 Senior Officers' Meetings, and the April 2014 Presidents' Meeting, in March 2015, 17 academics and administrators from across the IARU institutions, together with selected external contributors, met at the University of Oxford to discuss the challenges our universities face in providing teaching and support services to international students, and the possible solutions to these issues.

This paper summarizes the background to that meeting, the activities of that meeting, and attendees' hopes for future International Student Teaching and Support activity.

The International Student Teaching and Support group will meet for the second time on 6 – 8 April, hosted by the Australian National University. The group will look at more specific aspects of the ways IARU institutions support international students, the draft program and registered participants are annexed.

**The Tome contains:** Progress Report, Draft schedule of the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop, registered participants. (Page 101)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding request</b>	Approved at SOM 2015; no new funding requested.

### 6.4 Librarians' Contact Group

**Lead:** Kira Stine Hansen, Copenhagen University Library

#### Executive summary

The Librarians' Contact Group has prepared a poster to display at the president's meeting. And next time the group will discuss a proposal on leadership development among the IARU libraries.

Furthermore the Group has agreed upon a re-thinking of the meeting form and purpose in relation to the content. The whole meeting will be a mixture of input and sharing.

The Groups next meeting is to take place in June (8-10) 2016 in Zürich. The lead will rotate, therefore Rafael Ball (ETH Zürich) will be responsible for the next meeting.

And the 2017 meeting will take place at Yale University.

**The Tome contains:** report from the 4<sup>th</sup> Librarians meeting, Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Librarians' Meeting, Draft Agenda of the 5<sup>th</sup> Librarians Meeting (ETH Zurich), Draft Posters. (Page 109)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding request</b>	Progress report; no funding requested.

## 6.5 Research Administrators' Network

**Lead:** Jan Andersen, University of Copenhagen

### Executive summary

The Research Administrators' Network (RAN) met 14-15 October 2015. An oral report on the meeting was given at the Senior Officers Meeting October 2015. The RAN finalized the model collaboration agreement, enabling easy exchange of research staff, hereunder Marie Curie fellows, between the IARU participants. The RAN also published a dictionary of terminology in research funding and collaboration, overcoming communication barriers due to misunderstanding or misinterpretation of terms used differently in different countries. The forthcoming IARU RAN meeting will be held in September 2016 at ANU in conjunction with the INORMS 2016 meeting in Melbourne 11-15 September. Final dates to be confirmed. Topics for the further collaboration are:

Research Integrity is a growing concern and an important issue under the changing conditions of research, with funding cuts, global competition, mobility and pressure for publication.

Benchmarking and comparison of services is an ongoing discussion, and already performed studies and projects may form a common ground with key performance indicators and metrics around improving services

Global research projects raises the need for specific services within the university, how can research support functions be improved and aligned with these demands is a challenge that could be addressed by IARU

The organization of research support functions is constantly in flux. How to gain better services through optimizing organization is a constant challenge.

Funding of research and follow up on the discussion at the Senior Officers' Meeting (SOM) in October 2015 (ref. SOM 2015 Outcomes extract in the report).

**The Tome contains:** 2015 Meeting Agenda and Minutes. (Page 117)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested.
<b>Funding request</b>	Progress report; no new funding requested.

## 6.6 Technology Transfer

**Lead:** Prof. CHEN Dongmin, Peking University

### Executive summary

The 4<sup>th</sup> Technology Transfer Network workshop is scheduled to take place at UC Berkeley on 6 – 9 October 2016. The workshop will address special topics, such as “Distributed Innovation

Ecosystem“, “Software licensing”, and “IP marketing”.

All IARU partners interested in the IP Pooling are invited to upload their patents. The web-portal will be published once this process is complete.

**The Tome contains:** report and draft agenda of the 2016 workshop. (Page 125)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested
<b>Funding request</b>	Approved at SOM 2015; no new funding requested

### Session 7: New Proposals

New proposals will be presented orally.

### Session 8: Academic Freedom (Topical Session)

*Mr. Nick Hillman, Director of the Higher Education Policy Institute.*

Academic freedom is a fundamental attribute of leading universities, encompassing crucial and current issues such as government censorship of critical ideas, freedom to choose areas of research, institutional managerial autonomy, responses to terrorism/radicalisation, and free expression vs. creating “safe spaces” on campus. (Page 131)

### Session 9: Updates from IARU Research Collaboration and Global Education Initiatives

#### 9.1 Aging, Longevity and Health (ALH)

**Lead:** Tina Gottlieb, University of Copenhagen

#### Executive summary

#### Two summer courses in ALH

The Center for Healthy Aging (CEHA), UCPH, has been running the IARU summer school *Interdisciplinary Aspects of Healthy Aging* since 2011. In 2016, the UCPH/CEHA will be running a second summer course in the ALH area under the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Health umbrella.

#### *New summer course in 2016*

The new summer course titled *Alive and KICking – innovative solutions to aging-related challenges* contribute to the education and training of professional health innovators and entrepreneurs at an international level. The course is not part of the GSP yet open for IARU students and includes online lectures (June) and an ON-CAMPUS part at the UCPH (August).

#### *IARU summer course on Healthy Aging*

The 5<sup>th</sup> IARU Summer School on healthy aging took place in July, 2015, at UCPH. Students were from the 9 IARU universities (ANU, ETH, NUS, Oxford, Tokyo, Yale, Berkeley, PKU and UCPH). The scientific programs included IARU lecturers Prof. George Leeson (Oxford) and Dr. Louise Lafortune (Cambridge).

16 students representing all participating IARU Universities received a scholarship in the range of USD 380–3500 from the new scholarship program: “Novo Nordisk International Talent Program”.

## 2nd ALH Steering Committee Meeting in Copenhagen

The ALH Steering Committee represents 9 out of 10 IARU universities. The Committee held its second meeting in August, 2015. 8 universities were represented: NUS, ANU, PKU, Tokyo, Berkeley, Oxford, ETH and UCPH.

### *Scientific workshop*

The scientific workshop on 27<sup>th</sup> August was organized for IARU participants and researchers from CEHA and Aalborg University, Denmark. The program included 15 presentations by IARU and CEHA participants, followed by questions, discussions and networking. Joint research focus areas and potential projects were discussed.

### *2<sup>nd</sup> IARU ALH Steering Committee Meeting*

At the 28 August meeting, the Committee discussed future activities, funding and areas of common interest, as well as possibilities for MSc and PhD student exchanges. Based on the scientific workshop the day before, four scientific focus areas of mutual interest were identified for future work. The Committee also discussed the content and set-up for the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> IARU Aging, Longevity and Health Graduate Student Conference (GSC) to be held 3 - 5 November 2016 in Tokyo, Japan. A more detailed description of the conference proposal is included in the report.

## The IARU Project: Walkability

The IARU research project titled *Walkability – mobility and social relations among the elderly* involves Oxford, UCPH/CEHA and the Helen Hamlyn Center for Design. The goal is to investigate whether the existence of perceived community assets and/or specific characteristics of the built environment influence the propensity of older adults to walk, exercise and/or practice other healthy behaviors. Joint project meetings were conducted (Aug. Sept); local meetings by the Danish team (Nov. and Dec.). The project group expects to submit an application for funding during 2016.

## iHAN – International Healthy Aging Network

The International Healthy Aging Network (iHAN) is part of IARU. Researchers of iHAN collaborate on the study of molecular and cognitive biomarkers of healthy aging and age-related diseases, including Type 2 diabetes and Alzheimer's disease, using *in vivo* methods of neuroimaging, particularly positron emission tomography (PET).

In 2015, iHAN researchers created three affiliated nodes, including St Kitts (Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine), Tabriz (Tabriz University of Medical Sciences) and Kampala (Uganda National Research Health Organization, UNRHO), St Kitts and Tabriz affiliated with Copenhagen and Kampala affiliated with Oslo, respectively.

**The Tome includes:** ALH Progress Report, Graduate Student Conference proposal. (Page 137)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Approval of the Graduate Student Conference Proposal
<b>Funding request</b>	Up to USD 15,000 for the Graduate Students Conference (UTokyo)

## 9.2 Global Summer Program (GSP)

**Lead:** GSP Coordinators, IARU Secretariat

### Executive Summary

The GSP continues to be a strong program. GSP 2015 marked another successful season with 20 courses offered and 283 IARU students participating from all partners. The 2016 program – the 9<sup>th</sup> GSP cycle – is around the corner. A total of 24 courses are offered. University of Cape Town was also able to join the 2016 program with two courses.

Non-aligned academic calendars area a major challenge. Many students are discouraged to participate to a summer course if this overlaps with curricular activities.

The 2016 GSP Working committee meeting will be hosted by NUS and take place from 25 to 27 September 2016. The meeting will also celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IARU inviting GSP alumni and GSP faculty members to exchange on future development of the GSP. The financial support from IARU to cover the organisation of the event and GSP alumni travel costs, has been requested and granted at the 2015 Senior Officers' Meeting in Copenhagen.

**The Tome contains:** GSP Review and outlook; GSP 2016 Courses description, duration and costs. Applications overview; GSP 2015 Summary Report. (Page 147)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested
<b>Funding request</b>	Approved at SOM 2015; no new funding requested

## 9.3 Novo Nordisk International Talent Program

**Lead:** Sara Lunde Dinesen, University of Copenhagen

### Executive summary

The new Novo Nordisk International Talent Program (NNITP) has been established between the University of Copenhagen (UCPH) and the Danish healthcare company Novo Nordisk (Novo). Novo has kindly offered to fund a scholarship program for students from IARU universities taking a study abroad experience at the University of Copenhagen in a number of academic fields relating to the areas Novo represents. UCPH students undertaking a research period in the same areas at IARU partners are also eligible for funding.

Since its launch in May 2015, the NNITP has awarded scholarships to 54 students, 24 were awarded to UCPH outgoing students and 30 to incoming IARU students.

**The Tome contains:** NNITP Overview, Eligibility of Students, 2015 Awarded Scholarships. (Page 175)

<b>Items for decision</b>	n/a
<b>Funding request</b>	n/a

#### 9.4 PKU Medical City (For written information, not in agenda)

**Lead:** Peking Univeristy

##### **Executive Summary**

Due to a new situation at PKU International Hospital, it is proposed to postpone the PKU annual IARU workshop scheduled in November 2015. PKU will get back to IARU with further news in due course. (Page 181)

#### 9.5. Global Internship Program (For written information, not in agenda)

In 2015, four universities offered a total of 20 internship places. 12 of them were carried out by an IARU intern.

For 2016 one internship opportunity was offered at NUS and three at the Univeristy of Tokyo. The IARU Secretariat will ask the partners for possible internship positions.

**The Tome contains:** progress report.(Page 183)

<b>Items for decision</b>	Progress report; no decision requested
<b>Funding request</b>	n/a

### **Session 10: IARU Business Matters**

#### 10.1 Update on IARU Membership

Following the decision taken at the 2015 Presidents' Meeting, the Univeristy of Cape Town has been invited to join the Alliance. The IARU Chairperson sent a formal invitation to the Vice-Chancellor who warmly accepted. The Univeristy of Cape Town became the 11<sup>th</sup> member of the International Alliance of Research Universities on 1 January 2016. (Page 191)

#### 10.2 Financial Report

Balance per end of 2015: USD 237,571

Approved initiatives 2016: USD 138,500 already committed for initiatives and activities in 2016 (Page 195)

#### 10.3 Presidents' Meeting 2017 and 2018

2017 – The next Presidents' Meeting will be hosted by the Australian National University on dates to be defined.

2018 – Peking University has expressed interest to host the annual Presidents' Meeting in 2018 in occasion of the 120th anniversary of PKU. (Page 199)

#### 10.4 Future Directions of IARU (For written information, not on the agenda)

**Lead:** Don Filer (Yale), Jürg Brunnschweiler (ETH), Rexille Uy (UC Berkeley)

##### **Executive Summary**

A discussion on the “Future of IARU” started in 2014 which acknowledged the multiple benefits of the Alliance for its partners and encouraged to look into paths for further development.

A group of Senior Officer was tasked by the Presidents to draft a paper which was discussed at the Senior Officers meeting in 2015. Senior Officers agreed on the principles exposed in the paper and assigned higher priority to increasing IARU’s visibility within their universities.

Therefore the Senior Officers asked the task force to further develop a TEDx proposal with a view to hosting a TEDxIARU event in 2017. After consultation with TED, it appeared the organisation is not able to licence this format to a collaborative network such as IARU.

**The Tome contains:** Overview, Discussion Paper. (Page 201)

<b>Items for decision</b>	The task force recommends not pursuing the organisation of a TEDxIARU event any further.
<b>Funding request</b>	n/a

#### 10.5 IARU Communication and Branding (For written information, not on the agenda)

The IARU Secretariat informed the Senior Officers of necessary updates to the IARU website due to security threats. Due to an incompatibility of the graphic interface of the existing IARU website with the security updates, the Secretariat requested and obtained authorization and additional funding from the Senior Officers to make a new website with a completely new graphic design. The new IARU website went live on 1 April 2016.

Other branding materials needed to be updated in order to include the Univeristy of Cape Town in the list of members. Additionally, the IARU trademark and the web domain registration both expire in 2016. The IARU Secretariat requested and obtained permission and additional funding from the Senior Officers to renovate the mentioned materials and licenses.

Overall, the IARU Secretariat was granted USD 25,000 for the execution of the above.  
(Page 207)