

Report of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

December 2012 – December 2013



“What kinds of knowledge, knowledge epistemologies and knowledge ecologies are required to transform the world into a place of peace, happiness, justice and equity for citizens of the world?” Rajesh Tandon, India, Co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

“The responsiveness of universities cannot be only economic in character: it has to be of a wider social character” Saleem Badat, Vice-Chancellor, Rhodes University, South Africa

“Poor people’s knowledge is not being heard and it is time that we learn to listen. It is time to give the ‘right to research’ to everyone.” Sheila Patel, Chair, PRIA, India

“How do we create the new architectures of knowledge that allow co-construction of knowledge between intellectuals in academia and intellectuals located in community and social movement settings?” Budd L Hall, Canada, Co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

"It is time to review and reconsider the interchange of values between university and society; that is to say, we need to rethink the social relevance of universities."

Cristina Esgrigas, Global University Network for Innovation, Barcelona



LSR Seminar, India, January 2014

Reflections

Budd Hall - The creation of the UNESCO chair has come at a great time when scholars, higher education leaders, research funders, civil society organizations and politicians have been taking a fresh look at the potential of higher education to contribute more directly to the solution of some of our most pressing local and global concerns. Our challenge will be to contribute to policy development, the pursuit of excellence in the field of engagement and the training of a new generation of scholars who will listen to the needs of their communities.

Rajesh Tandon - UNESCO Chair came at an opportune time in Indian and Asian context since this theme of social responsibility is now gaining attention. There is a growing requirement of strengthening community engagements in mutually respectful ways in this region. I think the work of UNESCO Chair can be very meaningful in supporting these developments.

Crystal Tremblay - This has been an incredibly busy and stimulating year working as Research Coordinator for the UNESCO CBR Chair. I have collaborated in numerous project and visioning meetings with leading experts in Higher Education and Civil Society from around the world, have had many opportunities to speak at national and international conferences, and the great pleasure of contributing to publications relating to our work. As an emerging scholar in the field of community engagement and social geography, this experience has both equally challenged and supported my skills and capacity immensely.

Highlights of the First Year - Events Organized by the UNESCO Co-Chairs

The India Launch – December 10, 2012

The Canada Launch – March 4, 2013

Symposium on Knowledge Democracy – Victoria, March, 2013

GUNi Academic Symposium – Victoria, March, 2013

Indigenous Knowledge: Global Challenges – Paulo Wangoola, November 2013

Invited keynotes and leadership roles

International Symposium on Social Responsibility in Higher Education – Saudi Arabia – March, 2013 – Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall – Keynotes

6th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education, May, 2013 – Rajesh Tandon, Budd Hall, Planning Team and Keynote presentations. Crystal Tremblay, Video collage and opening session planning

4th Service Learning Conference, Hong Kong, June, 2013 –Rajesh Tandon, Keynote

Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Victoria, June 2013 – Rajesh Tandon, Budd Hall and Crystal Tremblay –conference presentations

CUExpo 2013 – Cornerbrook, Newfoundland – Budd Hall, Opening Keynote

Knowledge and Engagement Conference, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada – Budd Hall- Keynote

Community-Based Research Conversations – University of Massachusetts and other regional universities September, 2013 – four sessions in different parts of Boston – Budd Hall

Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Lubbock, Texas, USA, October, 2013 – Crystal Tremblay – Opening and closing panels



Engagement Scholarship Consortium, Texas, October 2013; Wafa Singh, India Coordinator.

Learning Cities Conference, PASCAL International Observatory, Hong Kong, November, 2013 – Rajesh Tandon-Keynote

Better Future Network International Forum, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil-November, 2013 – Crystal Tremblay – three invited presentations

Education for a Better World: Our Global Responsibility-Canadian Bureau of International Education-Vancouver, BC, Canada November 2013 Budd Hall-keynote



Sonipat Symposium, India, September 2012



GUNi Academic Symposium, Victoria, March 2013

Creation of an Internet presence and social media platforms

PRIA has designed and hosts the web sites of both the UNESCO Chair and GACER. In addition, we have created a Facebook page, and a twitter account, both of which are very active. @buddhall is also active with twitter having over 1,200 followers at the time of the report.

Our team

Rajesh Tandon, Co-Chair, New Delhi, India

Budd Hall, Co-Chair, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Crystal Tremblay, Research Coordinator, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Wafa Singh, Coordinator, New Delhi, India

Rebekka Schnitter, Social Media Specialist, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Acknowledgements

We are very grateful for the support from the School of Public Administration, the Faculty of Human and Social Development, the University of Victoria, The Society for Participatory Research in Asia, our two host organizations. The Institute for Studies in Innovation of Community University Engagement and First People's House have been so generous to us.

We are enormously grateful to all our Sister and Brother networks and partners who make up the wonderful movement of knowledge democracy and social responsibility in higher education. We would like to single out GUNi, PASCAL, The Living Knowledge Network, Community Based Research Canada and The Talloires Network for a particularly close and supportive series of collaborations over the past year. Please forgive us for not mentioning more. We love each of you!

We deeply appreciate the collaboration and support from several funding and official bodies who have made it possible for us to gather and move forward with our agenda. In particular we recognize the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, the International Development Research Centre, the British Council.

Creation of the UNESCO Chair in CBR and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

The creation of our chair was the result of the coming together of common threads of thinking from a variety of networks, locations and conceptual streams. Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall were jointly involved with the creation of the International Participatory Research Network in the 1970s. The focus of that network was on recognizing the knowledge creation processes of people in struggle, social movements and activists in civil society organizations. This early work was organized and acted upon outside of the world of formal higher education. Rajesh founded a civil society research and training organization in India called the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) where he remains as President. Budd went on to positions with the International Council for Adult Education, the University of Toronto and eventually the University of Victoria. In 2008, the University of Victoria hosted the 3rd Community-University Exposition (CUExpo2008) which brought large numbers of international and Canadian community and university research partners together.



UNESCO Chair launch, India 2012

One of the outcomes of that meeting was the creation of the Global Alliance for Community Engaged Research (GACER) that Rajesh chaired and Budd provided Secretariat functions.

In the meantime, UNESCO Higher Education leadership had been raising the visibility for the role of social responsibility in higher education. They supported the creation in 1989 of the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNi) which was located in Barcelona, Spain with support from both the Spanish and Catalanian governments. GUNi began to organize a series of international events on a wide variety of social and cultural themes related to higher education in the world. GUNi was and remains led by Cristina Esgrigas. In June of 2009, UNESCO held the International Conference on Higher Education in Paris. GACER sent a delegation led by Rajesh Tandon and Rajesh Tandon was a speaker in the GUNi workshop at the conference. There was an alliance of minds which resulted in strong support for increased attention to social responsibility of higher education as a key message from the communiqué of the conference.

In the aftermath of the conference, conversations between the higher education division in UNESCO, GUNi and GACER ensued. The result was an invitation from UNESCO for GACER to put forward via a partnership between the University of Victoria in Canada and PRIA in India a proposal to create a UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education. The unique nature of this chair is that both parties insisted that this be a shared Chair, a jointly appointed and led Chair linking the University of Victoria and PRIA in a formal partnership to support this work. We were delighted when UNESCO approved this proposal. The University of Victoria appointed Dr. Budd Hall from their School of Public Administration and the Board of Governors of PRIA appointed Dr. Rajesh Tandon to serve as Co-Chairs.

A Global Partnership - Partnerships/Networking

The Global Alliance on Community-Engaged Research (GACER) is the knowledge mobilization structure for the UNESCO Chair. During 2009 and 2010, GACER worked with a number of major global and regional networks on a collaborative project designed to encourage increased attention to and investment in community–university research structures at local and regional levels in majority world countries.

Founding Members of GACER are REPAS (the African Participatory Research Network, Dakar, Senegal), Centro Boliviano de Estudios Multidisciplinarios (La Paz, Bolivia), the Living Knowledge Network (Bonn, Germany), Global University Network for Innovation (Barcelona, Spain), Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (USA and Canada), and the Society for Participatory Research in Asia-PRIA (New Delhi). New partnerships have developed to include the PASCAL International Observatory, the Commonwealth Network for University Extension and Engagement, the National Coordinating Committee for Public Engagement in Higher Education and the University-Community Engagement Network of South East Asia.



6th International Conference on Higher Education, Spain, May 2013

The Work of the Chair

The UNESCO Chair supports North-South-South and South-South partnerships that build on and enhance the emerging consensus in knowledge democracy. It strengthens recent collaboration between the Higher Education section in UNESCO, the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) and the Global Alliance on Community University Engagement (GACER). It co-creates new knowledge through partnerships among universities (academics), communities (civil society) and government (policy-makers) leading to new capacities; new solutions to pressing problems related to sustainability, social and economic disparities, cultural exclusion, mistrust and conflict; awareness among policy makers; enhanced scholarship of engagement; and modified pedagogy of community based research.

The work of the UNESCO Chair contributes to:

- Supportive policies: through government support and research funding
- Trained professionals: researchers, scholars, students, practitioners
- Enhanced partnerships: between civil society, universities, North-South-South networks
- Supportive leadership: from academic councils, university administrations, vice chancellors and civil society leaders.

The Chair works to mainstream the practice of community-based research in the teaching and research functions of higher education worldwide. We want to strengthen the engagements between communities, civil society and the academia in ways that contribute to improved well being of all our peoples, as well as the transformation of institutions of higher education themselves. And, we want to promote the discourse on social responsibility of higher education in the perspective of ‘knowledge democracy’.

Activity streams

Over the first year of activity, the UNESCO Chair has focused on three streams of involvement: (1) advocacy and policy development, (2) strengthening institutional support for community

university research partnerships and(3) building training capacity for the next generation of community-based researchers.

The India Launch

Given the shared leadership and locations of the Chair, we wanted to have two launches, one in India and the second in Canada. This report takes the India launch as the starting point.

This session was started by a welcome speech by Prof. Zubair Meenai, Head, UGC Centre of Studies, Department of Social Work, JMI Following the welcome by Prof. Meenai, Dr Budd Hall, spoke of the 35 years of collaboration between Dr. Rajesh Tandon and himself in the development of participatory research. He noted that the focus of the Chair is on contributing to Community Based Research (CBR) and Social Responsibility capacity in the Global South through a focus on advocacy and policy development, capacity-building for the next generation of CBR and assessing the effectiveness of institutional arrangements for facilitating community university engagement and research. Dr. Tandon acknowledged many with whom he had worked and learned from over the years. He drew attention to the convergence of thinking between the goals of the UNESCO Chair and 12th Five Year Plan of the Government of India. He noted that the 12th Five Year Plan that will be approved by December 2012 would make recommendations that all public Universities in India make a commitment to community university engagement. Four principles for this work were outlined as: Mutually agreed interests and needs of both communities and institutions be articulated and respected; Engagement must encompass all the three functions of institutions of higher Education teaching, research and outreach/practice; Institutional engagement cutting across disciplines and faculties should be mandated, including natural sciences, and not restricted to social and human sciences alone; Participation in community engagement projects by students should earn them credits and partially meet graduation requirements and it should be integrated into their evaluation systems.

Prof. Najeeb Jung Vice Chancellor, JMI noted that this university has a deep history of Community Engagement Founded in 1920 by two streams of Muslim intellectuals at the instigation of Mahatma Gandhi, JMI is a product of a ‘fiercely secular and fiercely nationalistic’ Islamic Community that continues its engagement traditions in scores of project from literacy to rural development and to urban planning. JMI welcomed the new Chair and pledged full support to the goals thereof. Dr. Umarov, UNESCO Representative, provided an overview of the role of UNESCO Chairs in general and hoped that this Chair would be an active and productive one. He told the story of the India mathematics genius, Ramanujan, who with no formal training in maths, became one of the greatest math minds of his generation. The moral of the story is that powerful knowledge exists amongst many people in the world and we should be open to learning from them. His Excellency Stewart Beck, Canadian High Commissioner to India was delighted to see this new partnership between JMI, PRIA and UVic. He said that Canada has around 300 MOUs between Canadian Universities and Indian Higher Education institutions The Canadian High Commission looked forward to supporting this effort.



UNESCO Chair launch in India, December 2012

Ms Sheela Patel, Chair of PRIA Governing Board said that the leadership of PRIA welcomes the Chair and that both Dr. Tandon and Dr. Hall have a huge responsibility to practitioners. The time for reproducing existing knowledge is over. It is the time now to bridge the community and the academy. Poor people's knowledge is not being heard and it is time that we learn to listen. It is time to give the 'right to research' to everyone. Universities have steep learning curves ahead and must learn to work in new and respectful ways. Dr. David Turpin, President Univ. of Victoria, Canada) brought greetings and noted that UVic is ranked #1 in Canada and #2 in North America by Times Higher Education rankings of Universities under the age of 50. He also noted the longstanding relationship between UVic and PRIA. He further mentioned that the Chair is part of the very core of what UVic is all about: a destination university, an institution committed to civic engagement and a university that deeply values experiential learning. Dr. Narendra Jadav, member of the Planning Commission of the Government of India (responsible for education) and a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Pune was the Chief Guest. He noted that the gap between Higher Education and society in India is at a crisis level. Higher Education has over recent years distanced itself from the majority of people in society. He has taken the lead in the 12th Five Year Plan calling for the creation of new structures and new practices in community university engagement. He welcomed the creation of the Chair and said that once the proposed 12th Five Year Plan recommendations are approved, he sees a key role for the India Co-Chair in providing leadership and elements of coordination.

The India launch was followed up with a symposium on Social Responsibility in Higher Education held at the Jamia Millia Islamia and a second colloquium in Gujarat at the University created by Gandhi-ji, the Ahmedabad Gujarat

Additional Activities in India

An International Symposium on 'Fostering Social Responsibility and Strengthening Community Engagement in Higher Education' was organized by Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya (BPSMV), Khanpur Kalan, Sonapat, Haryana, India on 29th September' 2012. It was held in collaboration with the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research & Social Responsibility In Higher Education.

Dr (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Vice Chancellor, BPS Mahila Vishwavidyalaya welcomed the gathering and expressed happiness that the community engagement initiative taken by BPSMV in 2010 has now become a priority in higher education. Dr. Mittal related this initiative to the genesis of the university and informed the participants about its rich past and the revolutionary figure of Bhagat Phool Singh ji, who founded the Gurukula in 1936 to educate the girls, an outstanding example of commitment to social welfare. She briefly talked about the theme and objectives of the International Symposium being organized and stressed on the role of universities in societal development. She also shared that the University had taken the initiative for establishing the Centre for Society University Interface and Research (CSUIR).

Dr Mittal thanked Dr Pawan Agrawal, Advisor, Planning Commission, India for carrying forward the idea of ‘Society-University interface’, which was propounded by BPSV in 2010 at the national level. Dr Mittal informed the gathering about various significant steps initiated by the university, like adopting surrounding villages for providing basic amenities, developing local and cheap technologies, computerization of land records, capacity building of illiterate and poor women etc. Dr Mittal welcomed the idea of organising such symposiums and workshops throughout the country and also thanked the Planning Commission for offering BPSV with a leadership position in this direction. Prof. Kapil Kapoor, Dr Pawan Agarwal, Advisor (Higher Education), Planning Commission, and Dr Rajesh Tandon were keynote speakers during the event. There were two technical sessions in the symposium. One was on the “Role of Higher Education Institutions in Societal Development” and the second was, “Current examples of Community engagements in Haryana”, along with an open house discussion. Government officials, civil society actors, academicians and journalists shared their views on the subject.

Another symposium on “Community based Research and social responsibility in Higher Education” was held on 14th December’ 2012 at Ahmedabad. This event was jointly organized by PRIA and Gujarat Vidyapith. Mr Binoy Acharya, Director UNNATI welcomed the gathering and Dr Budd Hall presented the Global perspectives on Community Based Research (CBR). Dr Tandon spoke on the national perspectives, following which an open deliberation took place. Dr Sudarshan Iyengar, VC Gujarat Vidyapith, shared his views on the future directions for strengthening community based research practices.

A seminar was held at Lady Sri Ram College, New Delhi on the 24th of January’ 2014. Dr Meenakshi Gopinath, Principal, LSR college, gave a welcome speech, where she introduced Dr Andrew Petter, VC, Simon Fraser University, Canada, as one of the major resource person, in the field of CBR. Here, Prof Andrew Petter gave a presentation on “Engaged University”. He focused on the ways and means through which we could harness and leverage the strength of universities to contribute to social responsibility. He emphasized on how we can utilize the power of universities to contribute to better societies. He said that “SFU is not only the intellectual heart of the city, but is also increasingly emerging as centre of radicalism”. He shared that how its new campus in downtown Vancouver, has contributed in achieving a positive social impact. This sub-urban character of the university gave it a sense of social space, as it was situated amidst the community. Faculty and students from University and development sector

professionals attended the event. An open discussion also took place after the presentation, wherein, an array of questions were raised by the participants, which were answered by Dr Andrew Petter and Dr Rajesh Tandon. Dr Tandon, summed up the event, by giving his closing comments. A concluding note to the Seminar was given by Mrs Gopinath where she stressed on the importance of the initiative and the efforts required to take it forward.

Under the global study concerning Community University Research Partnerships (CURP), in India, as a kickstart initiative, the states of Punjab and West Bengal were chosen for the study. Herein, the survey questionnaire pertaining to Community Engagement with Higher Education Institutions was widely disseminated to the colleges and universities to get hands on data on such initiatives. Personal visits were also done to colleges in West Bengal to gather data on the same. These survey findings are to be disseminated and discussed in the Conferences to be held in the two states in the first week of March (3-4th March'2014 in West Bengal and 6-7th March in Punjab).

This policy dialogue is titled “Strengthening Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions”, and will see participation from a number of sectors including academia, NGOs, Government representatives, students, etc. Some of the premier UK academicians have also been invited to the conferences to share their experience on the theme. They are Dr Michael Osborne (Chair and Professor, Adult & Lifelong Education, University of Glasgow, UK), Dr Emma McKenna (Co-ordinator, Queen’s University, Belfast) and Dr Jenny Chambers (Senior Policy Manager, North Star Avenue, Wiltshire).

A similar conference is also scheduled in Delhi on the 5th of March’ 2014. It will witness extensive deliberations between an array of stakeholders, spanning government representatives, NGOs, academicians, etc. The Delhi event will also witness the launch of the 5th GUNi World Report on Higher Education. The Report provides visibility and critically examines the theory and practice of engagement. It approaches the challenge of Community-University Engagement (CUE) in an integrated manner. It explores ways in which engagement enhances teaching and learning, research, knowledge mobilization and dissemination.

It also charts the progress of the movement for greater civic engagement by universities over the past 10 to 15 years. The result of three years’ work, the report includes an analysis of the state of the art in six regions of the world as well as trends and good practices from each. Guest edited by Dr. Rajesh Tandon and Dr. Budd Hall (joint UNESCO chairs of community-based research and social responsibility in higher education), it contains contributions from 76 authors from around the world.

The Canada Launch

The Canadian launch took place on March 4, 2013 in the First People’s Ceremonial Hall on the campus of the University of Victoria. This special 50th anniversary event featured speakers President David Turpin; Vice-President Academic and Provost Reeta Tremblay; Dr. Budd Hall, Co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Community-based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher

Education; Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Community-based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education; Dean Mary Ellen Purkis, Faculty of Human and Social Development; Axel Meisel, President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO; and Sinéad Charbonneau, student from the Métis Nation.



UNESCO Chair launch in Canada, December 2012

It was noted that The UNESCO Chair is the only one in the world jointly hosted by a northern university and a southern non-governmental organization. The focus of the chair's program is to build research capacity in the field of community-based research and social responsibility in higher education in the Global South.

“A strong commitment to civic engagement is one of the foundations of the University of Victoria,” says UVic President David Turpin. “The new UNESCO Chair builds on the university’s leadership in community-based research and on the outstanding work by Budd Hall and Rajesh Tandon”.

For almost 40 years, Hall has been engaged in community-based adult learning and participatory research in Canada and internationally. He was the founding director of UVic’s Office of Community-based Research and is currently the secretary of the Global Alliance of Community Engaged Research (GACER).

“Our work is framed within a context of knowledge democracy, a concept that calls for recognition of diverse ways of knowing, including artistic, spiritual and collective forms” said Hall. “We note as well that the knowledge of Indigenous peoples worldwide have yet to be taken fully into the canon of our universities.”

On the 5th of March, a day long Symposium on Knowledge Democracy was held at the University of Victoria. Open to the community and the university community, the symposium celebrated the contributions to Community-Based Research by members of the community and the university in the larger region of Victoria and Vancouver Island. There was a special focus on the contributions of and lessons implied in Indigenous-Centered Research. International perspectives were also shared with members of the GUNI working group.

Advocacy and Policy Enhancement: Our Partnership with GUNi

All of our public presentations and networking activities are carried out in support of the many people working in community, in higher education, in governments, in international networks, and in funding agencies who seek to create more space, visibility, quality and impact for community based research and take the social responsibility in higher education to new levels or urgency.

Over the past several years, the UNESCO Chair has had the opportunity to develop a special, respectful and productive partnership with GUNi. Our work together has taken the form of collaboration with Cristina Esgrigas, the Executive Director and her Barcelona based team, in the context of preparing the 6th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education and the World Report on Higher Education 5. Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall served as Guest Editors of the report and members of the planning for the Conference itself.



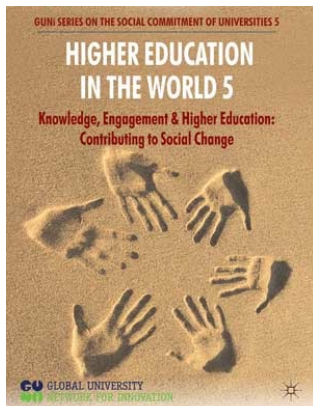
Conference website: <http://www.guninetwork.org/guni.conference/2013-guni-conference>

The organizing of the conference was done in the context of two contradictory phenomena: the dramatic rise in interest in the themes of engagement and higher education and the prolonged fiscal crisis facing many parts of the world including Spain, the home of GUNi, who found their resources cut to the bone. It was all the more wonderful to see that over 300 participants were able to contribute to the Barcelona activities coming from over 50 countries. But the shortage of travel support meant that many more of those who had so much to contribute coming from poorer countries or poorer organizations were unable to participate.

World Report on Higher Education 5 Knowledge, Engagement and Higher Education: Contributing to Social Change

The academic symposium held in Victoria in March of 2013, the Barcelona conference itself and thousands of e-mails flying around the world to more than 70 contributors to the World Report were pulled together with panache and professional aplomb by the GUNi team in spite of the fact that they were forced to find a new headquarters as a result of the on-going financial crisis Spain was facing.

Seventy-Six authors, specialists and scholars from all continents contributed to this most comprehensive report ever done on the global dimensions of community university knowledge partnerships and engagement. The report is structured into six sections: (1) The context, (2) Global Issues on Knowledge, Engagement and Higher Education, (3) Research on Knowledge, Engagement and Higher Education. (4) Regional Developments, (5) Future Visions and An Agenda for Action and (5) Further Reading. Launches of this groundbreaking report that we are already planned for the UK, Canada, Spain, Korea, Malta, USA, Hong Kong, Ireland and India.



Detailed information on the World Report available here:

www.palgrave.com/products/title.aspx?pid=280842

Strengthening Community University Research Partnerships – Global Study

This two-year project is well aligned with the UNESCO Chair platform of building and strengthening capacity for Community University Partnership Research. The project is a global study of institutional arrangements for the facilitation and support of research partnership between Civil Society Organizations and Higher Education Institutions. It is funded in part by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) with significant additional in-kind resources from the University of Victoria, Makerere University (Uganda), the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada, the Centro Boliviano de Estudios Multidisciplinarios (CEBEM) and a number of regional and global networking organizations including the Living Knowledge Network, Talloires Network, and PASCAL Observatories.

The project aims to: 1) develop an understanding of how research partnerships are initiated, supported, and evaluated through a comparative study of different types of institutional arrangements; 2) promote awareness of the significance and appropriateness of creating and/or supporting such enabling structures amongst decision-makers in higher education institutions (HEIs) in the Global South; and 3) mobilize knowledge for practitioner and policy actions in creating appropriate structures in different countries through the identification of best practices and recommendations. The multi-lingual survey (French, Spanish, Portuguese, English) will be active for 6 months between January and June 2014 at the following link.

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/crystal-G8c/mainstreaming-cbr>

In just over a month we have already received responses from 32 countries, with individuals representing Higher Education, Civil Society, government and funding agencies. This comprehensive survey is the first of its kind in capturing the diversity of CURPs globally, and will contribute significantly to our understanding of current institutional challenges and opportunities.

The Next Generation! Building Capacity in CBR

Our proposal ‘The Next Generation’ (SSHRC Partnership Development Grant submitted November 2013) responds to the call on how best to train people in CBR in both community and university settings by building a global partnership. The partnership will highlight emerging models of learning and teaching CBR, demonstrating improved processes, productivity and knowledge flow in a number of key sectors including governance, citizenship and environment. Our partnership is led by Budd Hall and Rajesh Tandon, co-chairs of the UNESCO Chair in CBR and Social Responsibility in Higher Education and Crystal Tremblay, research coordinator for the UNESCO Chair. Expertise in three thematic clusters comes from Leila Harris with the Program on Water Governance at UBC, Alison Mathie with the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier and Martha Farrell, Director of the PRIA Academy for Lifelong Learning. Of critical importance is the inclusion of 16 global and regional networks on community-university engagement. These include the Talloires Network, Association of Commonwealth Universities, PRIA, and Global University Network for Innovation, Living Knowledge Network, as well as the University of Alberta, The University of Victoria and Royal Roads University. Our network builds on these existing efforts and will constitute the heart of information and outreach on training for CBR.

We will carry out a global study of what is known and what is needed in relation to training for CBR. We will work to mobilize the knowledge and skills of three CBR leaders and 16 networking organizations to find new ways to work together to support of new training opportunities. Once we have data on existing training opportunities and best practices, we will identify several examples for detailed pilot studies—providing us with in-depth understanding of best practice models and the dynamics needed for CBR training. We will organize two symposia on knowledge mobilization and collective analysis to share findings with all interested parties and produce an electronic handbook of guidelines on best practices and key principles for training, as well as electronic scholarly texts on the theory and practice of CBR training with focus on the global South.

If accepted for funding, this project will commence September 2014 for three years.

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