



The role of faith-based universities in promoting respect

Seminar organised by The Association of Commonwealth Universities, with sponsorship from Liverpool Hope University and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Monday 30 January – Wednesday 1 February 2017

Hilda Constance Allen (HCA) Building, Hope Park Campus, Liverpool Hope University, UK

Programme

Monday 30 January – Day 1

09.00-09.30 **Registration** – Eden Suites reception area

09.30-10.00 **University campus tour** on foot

10.00-10.30 **Refreshments** – HCA Senior Common Room

Session 1 Room HCA 023 (except for Keynote speech)
10.30-10.40 **Introduction and welcome – background to the programme**
Dr John Kirkland OBE, Deputy Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

10.40-10.50 **Welcome to Liverpool Hope University**
Prof Gerald Pillay, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Liverpool Hope University, UK

10.50-11.20 **Participants' introduction**

11.20-12.00 **Keynote speech: Faith in the Commonwealth** – Senate Room
The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary-General, The Commonwealth

12.00-13.00 **Setting the scene – can we identify common values and why should we try?**
Chair: **Prof Gerald Pillay**, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Liverpool Hope University

Prof Nicholas Adams, Professor of Philosophical Theology, University of Birmingham, UK

Rev Dr Yazid Said, Lecturer in Islam, Liverpool Hope University, UK

13.00-14.00 **Lunch** – Fresh Hope Food Court

Session 2 Room HCA 023
14.00-15.15 **Creating the interfaith environment**
Chair: **Prof John Wood CBE**, Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:

Prof Dr Md Delawer Hossain, Pro Vice-Chancellor, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh – *Residential environment*

Dr Annette Kezaabu Kasimbazi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Kampala International University, Uganda – *All-inclusive prayers*
Prof Justus Gitari Mbae, Vice-Chancellor, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya – *Other faith prayer room facilities*

15.15-15.20 Common values review

15.20-15.40 **Refreshments** – HCA Senior Common Room

Session 3 Room HCA 023

15.40-16.55 **Religion in the curriculum – use of comparative material, core modules and insights into other religions**

Chair: **Dr John Kirkland**, Deputy Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:

Ven Prof Kanattegoda Saddharatana Thero, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka – *Undergraduate faith course units to encourage mutual understanding*

Prof Emmanuel Mbennah, Vice-Chancellor, St John's University of Tanzania – *Christian business ethics course and others on diverse religions*

Rev Dr Alistair Donald, University Chaplain, Heriot-Watt University, UK – *Learning from faith-based institutions about their curriculum/courses with a view to promoting respect between all faiths throughout the university*

16.55-17.00 Common values review

17.30-18.30 **Pre-dinner drinks** – Fresh Hope Food Court

18.30-21.00 **Informal dinner** – Fresh Hope Food Court

Tuesday 31 January – Day 2

Session 4 Room HCA 023

09.30-10.30 **The soul of the university: an open dialogue**

Prof John Wood, Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities
Prof Nicholas Adams, Professor of Philosophical Theology, University of Birmingham, UK

10.30-10.50 **Refreshments** – HCA Senior Common Room

Session 5 Room HCA 023

10.50-12.05 **Social and international development issues as a means of promoting respect**

Chair: **Hellen Pauline Ambasa Ombima**, Director of Legal Services and Company Secretary, United States International University, Kenya

Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:

Dr Ahmad Kawesa Sengendo, Rector, Islamic University in Uganda – *Master's degree in Religion, Peace and Conflict Resolution/mainstreaming international humanitarian law in university programmes*

Dr Issa Ziddy, Dean of School of Kiswahili and Foreign Languages, State University of Zanzibar, Tanzania – *Development Studies course*

Dr Mark Owen, Director for the Winchester Centre of Religion, Reconciliation and Peace, University of Winchester, UK – *Degrees focussed on theology/religion/peacebuilding*

12.05-12.20 Common values review

- 12.20-13.20 **Lunch** – Fresh Hope Food Court
- Session 6** Room HCA 023
13.20-14.35 **Moral and personal development**
Chair: Prof Justus Gitari Mbae, Vice-Chancellor, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya
- Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:*
Dr Chinmay Pandya, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya University, India – *Internships programme/National Service Scheme village camps*
Dr Syed Irtiza Ali Shah, Associate Professor, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan – *Community Service Learning and project specifically focussed on religious minorities and character building learning course*
Prof Aderemi Aaron-Anthony Atayero, Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Nigeria – *Raising new generation of leaders committed to excellence; spiritual development of students/staff*
- 14.35-14.50 Common values review
- 15.00-18.00 **Liverpool guided tour by coach** – pick up from/drop back to Taggart Avenue
Prof Bill Chambers, Liverpool Hope University, UK
- 18.45 **Transport to Gala Dinner** – The Great Hall, Creative Campus
- 19.15-22.00 **Gala Dinner** hosted by Liverpool Hope University
(A group photo will be taken at start of Gala Dinner)
- 22.05 Transport back to Hope Park Campus accommodation
-

Wednesday 1 February – Day 3

- Session 7** Room HCA 023
09.30-10.45 **Harnessing students and staff through extra-curricular activity**
Chair: Dr Chinmay Pandya, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, India
- Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:*
Prof Gerald Pillay, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Liverpool Hope University, UK – *Global Hope Programme*
Dr Ahmed Kawesa Sengendo, Rector, Islamic University of Uganda – *Role of sport; university and community activities*
Hellen Pauline Ambasa Ombima, Director of Legal Services and Company Secretary, United States International University, Kenya – *Role of student societies; Culture Week and Black History Month*
- 10.45-11.00 Common values review
- 11.00-11.20 **Refreshments** – HCA Senior Common Room
- Session 8** Room HCA 023
11.20-12.35 **The potential for stronger links between institutions**
Chair: Prof Dr Md Delawer Hossain, Pro Vice-Chancellor, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh
- Lead institutions – 5 minutes each:*
Prof Sebastian Kim, Chair in Theology and Public Life, York St John University, UK – *Staff exchanges/three-week annual visit to South Korea*

Ven Prof Gallele Sumanasiri Thero, Vice-Chancellor, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka – *Signed MoUs with other faith universities*
Prof A D N Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, India – *St Bede's College link*

12.35-12.50 Common values review

12.50-13.40 **Lunch** – Fresh Hope Food Court

Session 9 Room HCA 023

13.40-14.30

Rapporteur's report

Susan Botros, Project Officer, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

Overall review of Values Statement

Chair: **Prof John Wood**, Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

Session 10

14.30-15.00

Room HCA 023

Discussion on next steps

Chair: **Dr John Kirkland**, Deputy Secretary General, The Association of Commonwealth Universities

15.00

Close