



Cameroon Experience



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The Pope arrives in Cameroon, March 2009

In March 2009, Doris spent a week in Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon at the invitation of the Wellcome Trust and the African Society of Human Genetics (AfSHG). As part of the 6th Conference of the AfSHG

she spoke about the ethical challenges of involving indigenous peoples in research. After the conference, she joined a Wellcome Trust expert Commission on "Genetic Diversity in Health and Disease in African Popula-

tions". To add to the excitement, Doris was left in this rather hot country without luggage for three days and photographed the Pope from her window. Thanks to Dr. Giorgio Sirugo for facilitating the invitation.

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Michael Parker

Professor of Bioethics at
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Award from the European Academy for Technology Assessment



Vice Director of the European Academy Dr. Stephan Lingner with Prof. Doris Schroeder, July 2009

Doris was awarded a Visiting Fellowship of 10,000 Euro by a Policy-Advising Institute near Bonn. In return, she spent part of the summer at the Institute, mostly working on publications. She also gave two presentations, one of which led to an interview on national German radio.

Invitation to Montreal

Back row from left: Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) India; Dr Veronique Fournier, Assistance Publique-Hopitaux de Paris; Julie Cook Lucas, Research Associate UCLAN; Prof. Fatima Castillo, University of the Philippines, Manila; Dr Miltos Ladikas, International Development Officer, UCLAN; Prof Pamela Andanda, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg; Dr Gardar Arnason, University of Helsinki; Dr Joshua Kimani, University of Nairobi;

Front row from left: Roger Chennells, Legal representative South African San Institute; Prof Doris Schroeder, Director of CPE; Prof Jack Beeton, University of New England, Australia; Dr Giorgio Sirugo, Head of Medical Genetics Unit, San Pietro Hospital, Rome.



GenBenefit, one of the Centre's EU research projects, organised a dissemination event at the Hilton in Montreal, Canada on 6th November 2009. Tim Hodges, Co-Chair of the Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing, UN Convention on Biological Diversity gave the keynote address. In the

morning, project partners gave presentations on the project results and case studies. This was followed by a very useful public discussion.

The afternoon session presented the project's recommendations on Research Ethics Committee

Guidelines and International Regulations. A distinguished Panel, including Dr Vasantha Muthuswamy of the Indian Council for Medical Research and Dr Balakrishna Pisupati of the United Nations Environment Programme gave feedback with further useful public input. A book will follow in 2010.

Meeting Policy-Makers in South Africa



!Khwattu San Cultural Centre, January 2009

In January 2009, the GenBenefit research project co-sponsored a meeting on benefit sharing with the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development.

The meeting was held at !Khwattu, a San (bushmen) Education and Cultural Centre about 70 km from Cape Town.

Organised by a local Non-Governmental Organisation, Natural Justice, the meeting facilitated policy discussions between the San and the Nama with Namibian, South African and UN policy-makers, as well as commercial farmers.

Participants (pictured below) hailed the two days of discussions as unusually productive.



Meeting Policy-Makers in Kenya

GenBenefit also co-organised a meeting on post-study obligations with the Kenyan Ministry of Medical Services. The meeting took place in Nairobi in May 2009 and was attended by senior policy-makers, academics and NGO representatives. One of the recommendations from the meeting was an emphasis on taking feedback to research participants seriously as part of post-study obligations.

Prof. Pamela Andanda (GenBenefit), Dr. Judith Bwiyona (Deputy Director, Ministry of Medical Services, Kenya), with Doris, May, 2009



Governance & Benefit Sharing Trusts



Roger Chennells, Kuela Kiema (senior staff at Kuru Family of Organisations), Prof. Doris Schroeder in D'Kar, Botswana, May 2009.

The Centre was awarded a grant from the Wellcome Trust to carry out a pilot study in Southern Africa, Australia and India. The aim of the pilot is to map the governance structure of benefit sharing trusts and identify common difficulties. Doris collaborates with the Centre's Senior Research Fellow, Dr. David Coles and the South-African legal consultant Roger Chennells on this project. Interviews have already been conducted in India, Australia, and Botswana. The results of the pilot will be presented to the Wellcome Trust in December 2009.

UCLAN presents to National Ethics Councils

Professor Thomas Pogge of CPE gave a presentation about the Innova-P2 project to the 14th Forum of National Ethics Councils which took place in Stockholm on 17-18 September 2009. The National Ethics Councils advise the governments of the EU member states on ethical questions, especially in regard to health-care-related legislation and regulation

The theme of the meeting was Justice in Health and Health Care. The Forum of National Ethics Councils (NEC Forum) is an informal platform that meets twice a year for the exchange of information and experience on issues of common interest in the field of ethics and science.

The meeting was organized in collaboration between the European Commission (DG RTD), which funds Innova-P2 through the Seventh Framework Programme, and the Swedish National Council on Medical Ethics, SMER.



Professor Thomas Pogge

Europe and China—working together in Science & Technology



Dr Miltos Ladikas of the Centre has collaborated with colleagues in China to produce an EU-funded booklet, whose purpose is to provide a first-hand analysis of the different facets of Science in Society in Europe and China.

The book is the result of a series of discussions initiated by an FP6 project carried out during the year 2007 and which focused on issues of Science and Technology governance and ethics in Europe and Asia. The discussions were highly successful, not only in increasing mutual understanding between the two regions, but also in producing a series of collaborative initiatives between Europe

and China on bringing science and society closer together.

Concentrating particularly on the most crucial aspects, the book gives an overview of the basic cultural differences that underpin activities in the two regions, as well as giving a detailed description of the main policy advisory structures and a case study of a currently key Science and Technology field. The book offers the first overview of similarities and differences in the attempt to embed society in Science and Technology policy.

Meet Our Collaborators

A regular feature taking a look at the eminent careers of some of our key collaborators.



Professor Fatima Castillo, University of the Philippines, Manila

Tim was born on an island in the Philippines where most people lived in extreme poverty. Hers was a middle class family and both her parents taught their 7 children that they must always be fair in their dealings and fight oppression. Her mother was a teacher and a rare example of independence and courage in a predominantly patriarchal culture. It

is from these personal beginnings that Tim developed a keen sense of justice and deep empathy for the poor.

Her current engagements are diverse, in varied settings: academia, civil society and community work. She is a Professor of Politics and Social Research at the University of the Philippines Manila, who has received a number of prestigious awards. As Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, she introduced a community-based learning program. Students and staff spent time in impoverished communities and then brought back new knowledge to enrich theoretical and academic discussions. For Tim, it is essential that publicly funded universities provide socially responsive education.

With colleagues from Asia Pacific, she pioneered work in the region in promoting the health social sciences, a trans-disciplinary approach in teaching for medical students. This approach addresses health problems through the deployment of the analytical tools of both the social and medical sciences, thereby moving medical education away from a one-dimensional, disease-oriented cur-

riculum to one that is more socially sensitive.

The urgent concerns faced by impoverished Filipinos are similar to those of people in poverty throughout the world. It is therefore natural that she became involved in international projects to correct some injustices that victimise the marginalised such as indigenous peoples and women in poverty.

Doris and Miltos have been working with Tim since 2003, whilst Julie and Thomas have more recently created strong research links.

Information about Tim's research and advocacy work can be found on her website: <http://fatimacastillo.com.ph>.

This newsletter was produced by Cathy Lennon in collaboration with CPE colleagues. For further information contact: CLennon1@uclan.ac.uk