

**Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom
Evaluation & Monitoring Programme Seminar**

“Measuring the Impact of International Scholarships”

**Cumberland Lodge, Windsor
Friday 16th March 2012 – Sunday 18th March 2012**

Objectives

- To share knowledge and experience relating to existing impact evaluations of scholarship and fellowship programmes.
- To discuss issues arising from the challenges of evaluating scholarship programmes and similar capacity building programmes and identify potential benchmark indicators for future comparisons.
- To learn more about the various evaluation methodologies that can be utilised by such programmes and to identify those which are the most appropriate.
- To explore the possibility of establishing a forum of like-minded professionals that allows for future collaboration between different organisations in order that best practice and experiences can continue to be shared.

Programme

Friday 16th March

- 17.30 Arrival & Check-in
- 18.15 Welcome from Professor Tim Unwin (Chair of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission) and Dr Alastair Niven (Cumberland Lodge)
- 18.30 ‘Measuring the Impact of International Scholarships’ Overview of CSC Evaluation and the event objectives
Dr Norm J Geddes (Outgoing Chair, CSC Evaluation & Monitoring Committee)
- 18.45 Informal Introductory Session: Short presentations or introductions from participants including brief description of schemes and objectives.
Prof Tim Unwin, (Chair, CSC) – others to follow
- 19.30 Dinner
- 20.30 ‘Education, International Development and Impact Evaluation - New Challenges and Opportunities’: A brief overview
Professor Jeff Waage, (Director, London International Development Centre & Commissioner, CSC)

Saturday 17th March

- 08.00 Breakfast
- 09.00 Introduction to the day
- Session One: Measuring the Impact of Scholarships and Fellowships: Existing Methods and Practice**
- 09.05 “Examining development evaluation in higher education interventions: a preliminary study”
Dr Hilary Perraton, Visiting Fellow, Institute of Education
- 09.20 “Evaluations of Dutch capacity building programmes”
Mr Ad Boeren, Senior Policy Adviser, NUFFIC
- 09.35 Evaluating the Impact of Scholarships and Fellowships
Dr Norm J Geddes, Commissioner, Commonwealth Scholarship Commission
- 09.50 The Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program (IFP): Evaluation Strategies

Dr Joan Dassin, Executive Director, Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program

10.05 'Evaluating the impacts: Environment Agency Professional Fellowship Programme'
Ms Corry McDiarmid, International Development Advisor, Environment Agency

10.20 Tea break

Session Two: Measuring the Impact of Scholarships and Fellowships: Developing a Common Understanding

10.45 Break out Groups:

1. Developing a common understanding: Defining outcomes, outputs and inputs.
2. The challenge of the counterfactual in scholarship programmes: Can it be done?
3. How do we measure development impact? Identifying indicators and setting benchmarks for scholarship programmes

12.00 Feedback from Group chairs and discussion of issues covered.

13.00 Lunch

Session Three: Measuring the Impact of Scholarships and Fellowships: Other perspectives

14.00 The funders perspective: Expectations and needs from Value for Money to the MDGs.
Mr Roger Clark & Mr Andrew Shaw, DFID
Dr David Rampersad, Former Chair, National Scholarships Board, Trinidad
Mr Ad Boeren, NUFFIC

Followed by Panel Discussion
Chair: Dr John Kirkland, Executive Secretary, CSC

15.15 Tea break

15.45 The awardholders perspective: – Insights from awardees
Justin Valentin, Commonwealth Scholar, Kings College London
Professor Indu Grover, Former Commonwealth Scholar & Fellow, Retired
Judith Kabajulizi, Commonwealth Scholar, LSHTM

Followed by Panel Discussion
Chair: Professor Tim Unwin, Chair CSC

17.00 Free time

18.00 Optional tour of the house.

18.30 Pre dinner drink

19.00 Dinner

20.00 After Dinner Debate

Sunday 18th March

Session Four: Identifying Methodologies and Meeting Challenges

08.00 Breakfast

09.30 Introduction to the day/Summary of previous day.

09.45 Break Out Groups

'What are we doing and what more can be done? Measuring the impact of Scholarships and Fellowships

3 x Groups to be asked to consider the following three questions

- 1) What is happening already in terms of evaluation?
- 2) What should we be measuring in order to assess outcomes and impact?
- 3) How should or could we go about measuring this?

from one of the following three perspectives;

- i) beneficiaries or alumni, ii) organisations/employers, iii) value for money:

11.15 Tea break

11.45 The proposals: Feedback from Session three breakout groups.
Chair: Professor Nyovani Madise

12.30 Lunch

Session Five: Summary and Next Steps

13.30 Next Steps: Towards an M&E network of scholarship agencies for development – establishing benchmarks and sharing good practice. Open discussion on future collaboration.
Professor Nyovani Madise

14.15 Closing Remarks from CSC
Professor Tim Unwin

14.30 Close