



COMMONWEALTH
SCHOLARSHIPS

COMMONWEALTH KNOWLEDGE

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REALISING THE POTENTIAL
Improving lives across the Commonwealth



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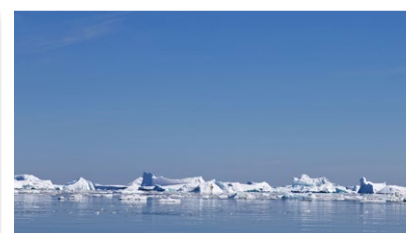
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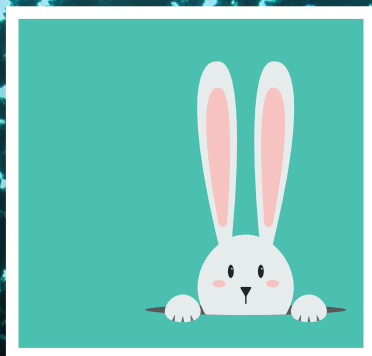


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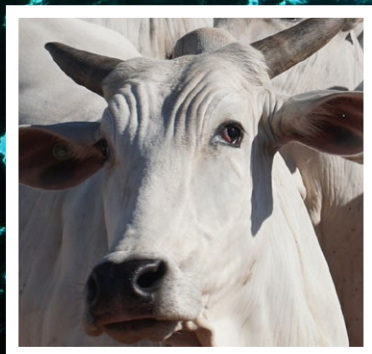


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THE FIRST WORD

I am delighted to be writing the opening words of the sixth issue of *Common Knowledge*. Our Commonwealth Scholars – both past and present – provide inexhaustible inspiration through their great ideas and sheer hard work, researching and then implementing innovations in so many different ways. I encourage you to read this issue cover to cover, so that you do not miss any one of the accounts of our Scholars leading change and making development happen across the Commonwealth.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge our partners in universities in the UK and throughout the Commonwealth. The CSC – and of course our Scholars and Fellows – are intensely thankful for your support through teaching and supervision, financial assistance, and expert advice. If you do not find an article that references your institution, then please do write to us about your work with Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows so that we can include it in a future issue.

The CSC has set itself three strategic objectives in the coming year:

1. To provide a world-class scholarship scheme that contributes to sustainable development across the Commonwealth
2. To ensure that our programmes promote equity and inclusion, reward merit, and deliver widespread access, especially to those from disadvantaged backgrounds
3. To support and encourage cutting-edge research, innovation, and knowledge exchange across the Commonwealth

These objectives emerge from a year of debate and discussion within the Commission and with our major funder, the UK Department for International Development (DFID). Their implementation is underpinned by a three-year funding commitment by DFID, which enables the CSC to grow the scheme, adding value to existing programmes and investing in new initiatives. We are extremely grateful to DFID and the UK government for this statement of confidence in the impact of the CSC, especially in this year of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) hosted by the UK in April, and the approaching 60th anniversary of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP).

The CSC's new priorities include the introduction of development-related themes for assessing scholarship applications; a package of scholarships to welcome the Gambia's return to the Commonwealth; an intensified focus on identifying potential Scholars who are economically or socially disadvantaged; and a programme to empower our alumni as active participants in the stewardship and development of our scheme. Our key purpose is, of course, to demonstrate how Commonwealth Scholarships enable our alumni to have an impact on development at local, national, and global levels.

This issue of *Common Knowledge* also introduces the Commonwealth Rutherford Fellows (page 14-15) – a new programme within the CSC's portfolio. Thanks to funding from the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), we are supporting a new batch of postdoctoral fellowships at pioneering UK university research departments, with the aim of creating and strengthening international collaborations. Selecting only 50 Commonwealth Rutherford Fellows from the hundreds of very high-quality research proposals was the hardest selection job any Commissioner has had.

As we come to the end of the UK academic year and start to bid farewell to our current cohort, as well as look forward to the arrival of the newest members of our community, I conclude with thanks and best wishes to all our Commonwealth Scholars, alumni, and partners.

Richard Middleton

Chair

alumni@cscuk.org.uk

Common Knowledge

Editorial team:

Natasha Lokhun

Kirsty Scott

Halema Khatun

James Goldsmith

Thomas Blunt

Rachel Day

Design:

Pilot Design Consultancy Ltd

Print:

TFW Printers Ltd

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Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HF, United Kingdom

info@cscuk.org.uk dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

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CHILD SURVIVORS

Andrew Ssemata looks at the long-term effects of malaria on children in Uganda.



Ugandan children face great risk from disease – including HIV, malaria, malnutrition, vitamin and mineral deficiency, anaemia, and helminth infections. Such diseases are common during their first three years of life – a period of heightened brain growth and development – and can therefore cause abnormal brain development. My research investigates the neuropsychological effects (on brain functions related to thinking and behaviour) of severe malaria, anaemia, and iron deficiency on children under five in Uganda.

The consequences of infection may begin early in life and continue long after the disease.



In areas where the disease is rife, malaria is the cause of 50% of child hospital admissions. An estimated 4,550 children each year will have complications related to the central nervous system as a result of severe malaria. These children may be unable to reach their full potential in later life, dampening their educational achievement and occupational attainment.

Children with malaria often also suffer from iron deficiency. The interaction between malaria and iron deficiency is complex, and has been associated with an increased risk of cognitive impairment during infancy and early childhood.

THE UNKNOWN

After my Commonwealth Shared Scholarship at Aston University, I returned to Uganda to a role at the National Referral Hospital in Kampala. I wanted to put into practice the health psychology principles I had learnt. However, after two years at the hospital, I realised that further research into the neuropsychological effect of diseases was needed.

Much medical research to date has focused on disease prevention and control, and efforts to treat and manage such conditions are ongoing. But the significant effects of disease on survivors' neuropsychological functions – cognitive, behavioural, and socioemotional – have yet to be addressed. How these conditions affect children's brain development, behaviour, and quality of life is not fully known, particularly in low and middle income countries such as Uganda. The consequences of infection may begin early in life and continue long after the disease.

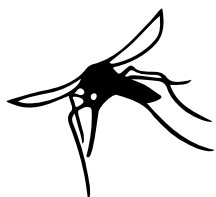
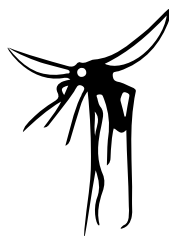
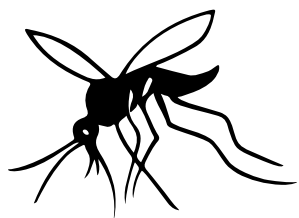


Through my research, I am developing reliable and valid procedures for assessing, managing, and rehabilitating patients who suffer from neurological injuries as the result of a previous disease. I am using neuropsychological testing to evaluate the progression of the disease or treatment for it, and to guide the rehabilitation or clinical management of cognitive, emotional, and behavioural problems. This work will enable recovery from neurological injuries and reduce the number of children living with a neuropsychological impairment that could be resolved.

DEVELOPING THE TESTS

One of the key challenges is establishing a consensus on neurocognitive tests that can be used in low and middle income country contexts. The instruments used to test cognition – the ability to think, understand, learn, and remember – across countries are different and measure cognition in different ways, making comparisons problematic. The tests developed need to be psychometrically adequate, valid, and reliable – as well as enjoyable for the children completing them. They also need to be adaptable for use in different cultures and by non-specialist primary healthcare providers, without compromising their effectiveness.

Through my split-site study at Aston University, I have been able to assess the impact of childhood neuropsychological dysfunction across different cultures. This helped me determine which tools and methods could be adapted for use in Uganda in a way that would preserve test reliability and validity.



Andrew Ssemata is a 2016 Commonwealth Split-site Scholar from Uganda – he is studying for a PhD in Life Sciences at Makerere University and Aston University. He is also a 2011 Commonwealth Shared Scholar – he studied MSc Psychology of Health and Illness at Aston University.



Andrew conducting a neuropsychological test adapted for Ugandan children

I also broadened my knowledge of tests to assess cognitive functions in children such as controlling impulsive responses (inhibitory control), reasoning logically (abstract reasoning), planning, short-term (working) memory, and using words to communicate ideas and feelings (language processing). I gained a deeper understanding of how to link brain functioning to wellbeing after a health condition, and how to best design interventions not only to clear the disease, but also to resolve neuropsychological deficits caused by illness.

As a result, I will be able to assess the extent and severity of cognitive impairments in children with severe malaria. In the future, I plan to develop a set of cognitive tests specifically for the Ugandan population, which can be rolled out across other diseases.

NEW HOPE

Having studied my Master's at Aston, I found it easy to settle in and kickstart my research in the shortest time possible. I have established and strengthened collaborative links between Aston's Psychology Department and the Psychiatry Department at Makerere University in Uganda. I hope and believe these will create more opportunities for future research and innovation – leading to a full suite of tools that can be used to promote a high quality of life and improved wellbeing for Ugandan children.

CK





A PART OF THE SOLUTION

Emmanuel Owobu on the inspiration behind his innovative healthcare app.



It is easier to reach 40 million women in Nigeria with lifesaving health information through their mobile devices.



Dr Emmanuel Owobu is a 2016 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar – he is studying MSc Global eHealth at the University of Edinburgh.

OPPOSITE: A mother using the OMOMI app to access child health information

Access to healthcare and universal health coverage is supposed to be a basic right for every single person on the Earth, irrespective of geography or socioeconomic status. However, this is not the case in many low and middle income countries. My country, for example, has the second highest number of maternal and child deaths worldwide, with around 2,300 children under the age of five and 145 women of childbearing age dying every day. Every 10 minutes, one woman dies because of pregnancy or childbirth – a total of 53,000 deaths each year. This means that for every 100,000 babies born in Nigeria, about 800 women die. The newborn death rate – 528 per day – is one of the highest in the world. More than a quarter of the estimated 1 million children under the age of five who die each year are less than 28 days old.

The reason for this is simple: most mothers in Nigeria and many other developing nations often lack information about what they can do to protect their and their babies' health, and about what health services they need and when they should seek them. As a medical doctor, I have had to witness the real life situations behind the heart-wrenching statistics unfold in local hospitals and clinics. Early in my career, I knew I had to be a part of the solution in more ways than being a doctor.

Mobile technology has spread across the world over the last decade, and is now being used to improve the lives of people and society at large. Young people have become extremely innovative and are creating lifesaving solutions for their communities in all areas, including agriculture, education, and healthcare. I realised that there was a clear opportunity for mobile technology to become a key part of the future of healthcare delivery, as well as propelling socioeconomic development in my community to the point where basic services become truly basic.

Our solution – one of Nigeria's leading m-health (mobile health) services, the OMOMI mobile app, web, and SMS platform – combines innovation with the already existing infinite potential of mobile technology in Africa to provide access to quality and affordable healthcare services in hard-to-reach communities.

OMOMI does this through behaviour modification techniques, continuous learning, and the provision of simple health skills. We aim to solve both the acute and long-term problems of maternal and child mortality. The OMOMI solution empowers mothers with basic knowledge and skills that are easily transferable to their family, other mothers, and wider society, while providing them with access to healthcare.

I believe it is easier to reach 40 million women in Nigeria with lifesaving health information and access to healthcare through their mobile devices, rather than visiting them one at a time in their homes or local hospitals. But building e-health and m-health solutions is still very challenging in this part of the world. One major issue we had was users accepting this new method of seeking healthcare and health information. Even after developing the most elegant m-health solution in the world, user acceptance is key. The traditional means of visiting hospitals has dominated this part of the world for years, and shifting from the norm could yet be a problem. This brings with it the issue of creating a sustainable e-health solution that can scale to the point of reaching every woman, man, and child in the country.

A user-centred approach which allows everyone – doctors, nurses, community health workers, and patients – to be part of the development process is key in building a solution that is acceptable and can become sustainable. Although I knew about user-centred design, our approach was quite initially basic. Using the knowledge gained from my MSc studies, we implemented a more advanced design, with a more iterative process and more testing. The result has been over 250% user growth in six months.

Being a Commonwealth Scholar over the last two years has been an amazing experience and brings a lot of credibility to the work we are doing across Nigeria. Learning while working can be challenging, but the programme is flexible and provides a high level of support to ensure that every student succeeds, and that we are geared up to all be part of the solution to global health issues. **CK**



SECURING LGBTQ RIGHTS IN MALAWI

Homosexuality has been a subject of debate and contention in Malawi for many years. Alan Msosa shares his research and insight on the topic.

The Malawian government suspended the arrest and prosecution of consensual adult homosexual acts in 2014. Two years later, in November 2016, the government asked the Malawi Human Rights Commission to hold a public inquiry into LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex) rights to inform its decision on whether to decriminalise anti-gay laws.

My interest in researching this issue predates the current wave of public debates. In 2004, while working as an investigator at the Office of the Ombudsman in Malawi, we turned away someone with an employment-related complaint because he stated that he occasionally had relationships with men. I was alarmed that a fellow citizen could not access the free services of a constitutionally established national human rights institution because of his sexual orientation. During my postgraduate studies in the same year, I started exploring the types of obstacles faced by Malawians when accessing such services. I concluded that more needed to be done to facilitate better access to these institutions for marginalised people.

In 2008, I started collecting newspaper articles about homosexuality in Malawi, after reading an 'alert' in one of the local papers that homosexuals had 'arrived' in the country. From a researcher's perspective, I was struck by the absence of academic writing on homosexuality or LGBTQI rights in Malawi. Even when I did come across Malawians with expertise in this area, they often expressed reservations about discussing their

research because of their moral position. I therefore found it imperative to fill this research gap with the hope of supporting evidence-based decision-making on LGBTQI laws in Malawi.

Constitutional and international obligations require the protection of human rights on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The substantive question facing Malawi now is whether LGBTQI people are equally entitled to human rights accorded by the constitution and international human rights treaties. Answering this question is necessary to assess whether anti-gay laws present obstacles to such entitlement.

The key debates are premised on two opposing viewpoints. First, the majority of Malawians feel that homosexuality must be prohibited because it is against their cultural and religious beliefs. As a result, they feel that it is necessary to retain laws that criminalise non-heterosexual activity. On the other hand, a minority feel that LGBTQI people must enjoy equal rights and freedoms, including freedom from arrest when they engage in consensual adult relationships.

My PhD investigated the societal and institutional factors that have led to challenges in the protection of human rights based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Malawi. As part of my research, I interviewed 44 LGBTQI Malawians to document their daily experiences in their communities and public institutions. I also analysed court judgements to understand the grounds on which people are convicted under anti-

HOMOSEXUALITY IS AN ISSUE OF HEATED CONTROVERSY IN MALAWI. THE MOST PROMINENT PUBLIC DEBATE EMERGED IN 2009 WHEN TWO MALAWIANS – STEVEN MONJEZA AND TIWONGE CHIMBALANGA, A TRANSGENDER WOMAN – HELD A PUBLIC TRADITIONAL WEDDING CEREMONY IN BLANTYRE. FOLLOWING THE WEDDING, THEY WERE ARRESTED AND SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT WITH HARD LABOUR. THEY ESCAPED SERVING THEIR SENTENCE AFTER A PRESIDENTIAL PARDON.

gay laws. I found that many suffer multiple human rights violations in their ordinary daily undertakings. However, perhaps the most surprising finding in my research is that their local communities and families are more likely to be inclusive and tolerant than public institutions.

I also found that nearly all previous convictions have been for non-consensual same-sex acts between males. In addition, the male participants that I interviewed in my research reported that they were repeatedly falsely accused of belonging to groups that molest children. This misunderstanding partly stems from a common linguistic confusion in Chichewa, in which the word for 'homosexuality' can be confused with sex with a minor. It is based on this misunderstanding that I have recommended in my research that the preamble to any meaningful engagement on homosexuality or LGBTQI rights in the Malawian context must provide clarity on the terminology, meanings, and subject matter under discussion.

In May 2017, I was invited by the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) – the largest community-based international development network in the UK – to address the Scottish Parliament's Cross-Party Group on Malawi on LGBTQI rights. The invitation was extended in the context of my longstanding engagement with Scottish institutions, dating back to 2005, when I facilitated cooperation between the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman and its Malawian counterpart to share knowledge and expertise aimed at improving the delivery of services.

On a panel with two esteemed LGBTQI activists – Dr Matthew Waites from the University of Glasgow and Scott Cuthbertson from the Equality Network – we discussed how international stakeholders can overcome the challenges that arise when engaging in the advancement of LGBTQI rights in Malawi. Based on my research findings, I proposed that the likelihood of progressive engagement between international and local Malawian stakeholders on the issue is achievable if there is mutual understanding that LGBTQI rights do not connote non-consensual sexual acts, especially those concerning children. We also shared best practice examples of state and non-state actors collaborating on various cases in Malawi.

I was motivated to address the cross-party group by my continuing advocacy for more international partners to engage with Malawi in its efforts to protect the human rights of LGBTQI people. Following the meeting, we are exploring further collaboration. In my view, a correct understanding of homosexuality and LGBTQI rights will lead to one conclusion: that LGBTQI people are equally entitled to human rights under Malawi's constitution and international obligations. **CK**

Alan Msosa is a 2013 Commonwealth Scholar from Malawi – he studied for a PhD in Human Rights at the University of Essex.



POLAR ATTRACTION

Archana Dayal on the need for collaboration and partnerships to create solutions.

'IF YOU WANT TO RUN FAST,
RUN ALONE.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO RUN FAR,
RUN TOGETHER.'

This African proverb also holds true for my work in the exciting field of polar science.

Polar science – research in the Arctic and Antarctic regions – helps us to understand how the Earth works, how climate and weather are changing, and how climate change will affect the polar regions and, by extension, the rest of the planet. My particular research interest is focused on how microorganisms (such as bacteria, fungi, and algae) in polar snow regulate the cycling of trace gases. Through this, we will learn how the ecology of snow affects the chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere, and how we can use snow and ice cores extracted from the polar regions to study long-term climate change.

WHY POLAR SCIENCE?

My first scientific encounter with snow cores was during an internship at India's National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research in 2012. I analysed 20 one-metre long snow cores that had been brought from Antarctica, working out seasonal trends, concentrations, and sources of dust and organic carbon. I was

then chosen as the only student researcher to travel with the 33rd Indian Scientific Expedition Team to Antarctica the following year, conducting an independent research project on the biogeochemistry of blue ice (glacial ice with the air bubbles squeezed out so it appears blue in colour) and cryoconite holes (habitats where microbes thrive) in coastal east Antarctica.

As part of this project, I drilled and collected blue ice and snow cores and collected water and sediment samples from cryoconite holes in the Princess Elizabeth Land, Dronning Maud Land, and Amery Ice Shelf (Antarctica's largest blue ice area) regions. Through these studies, I gradually became fascinated with the fragility and beauty of these pristine icy ecosystems, understanding their importance and sensitivity to the changing climate alongside their role in the Earth's system.

Climate change is the single most important issue facing humans in the 21st century – and there is a pressing need for India to understand it and its impacts. The nation is gradually increasing its involvement in polar research, and established its third Antarctic

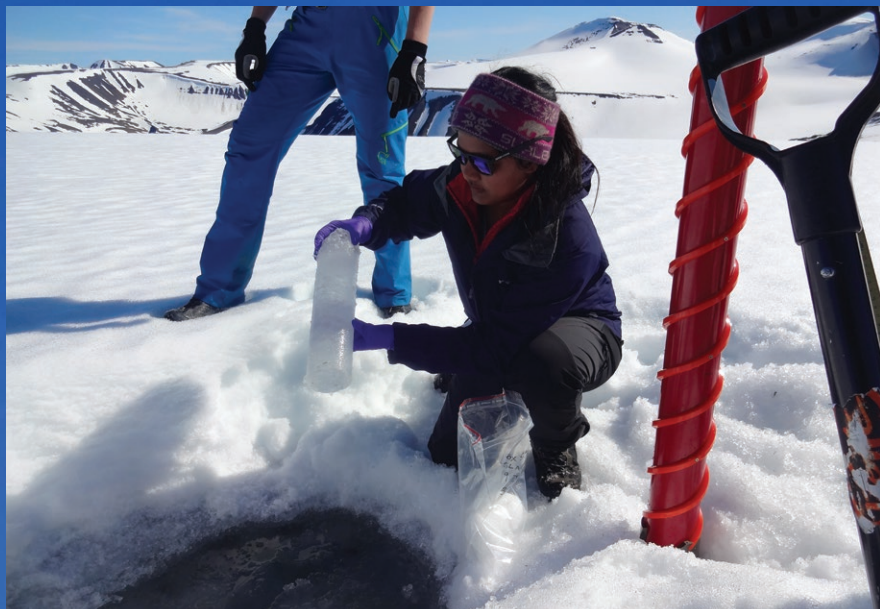
research base in 2012. By the end of my Antarctic project, I had decided to pursue a career studying the polar environment and increasing our understanding of this frozen region.

EXPLORING FURTHER

My PhD fieldwork was conducted in the High Arctic, in Svalbard – a Norwegian archipelago of islands located north of the Arctic Circle. My research base was Longyearbyen, a small town of 2,000 residents, where I enrolled at the University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS), the world's northernmost university. This university teemed with Arctic experts and students like me from all around the world, who wanted to study and understand this part of the planet and how it shapes our collective future.

I realised the importance of collaboration as I learnt and used tools and technologies with immense support and help from my supervisor, Professor Andy Hodson, who has a quarter of a century of polar fieldwork experience. I also learnt to work with an





Archana collecting an ice core during her fieldwork in Svalbard



Archana Dayal is a 2015 Commonwealth PhD Scholar – she is studying for a PhD in Environmental Studies (Geography) at the University of Sheffield.

international group of people who were not only famed for their Arctic knowledge, but also well trained in polar bear safety and survival skills – skills that I had to pick up very quickly in order to work in an inhospitable terrain where polar bears outnumbered human residents!

WORKING TOGETHER

After four and a half months, I returned to the University of Sheffield having drilled and collected around 120 kilograms of snow and ice. I conducted various analyses and experiments in order to understand the changing microbial communities in these cold environments, working towards my objective of learning and using advanced molecular biology techniques to determine the species distribution in extreme environments. I then got the opportunity to work at my 'third' university with Dr Arwyn Edwards, a glacial microbiology expert at Aberystwyth University. What came to the forefront again was the importance and need to collaborate with and learn from various experts and teams of researchers in this field, especially as

the solutions to the challenges we face now are based on interdisciplinary research.

I have laid particular stress and importance on developing beneficial partnerships within the UK and internationally. I am currently President of the UK Polar Network (UKPN), an internationally respected organisation that connects 600 early career researchers across the UK with interests in polar regions and the wider cryosphere (places where water is in its solid form, frozen into ice or snow). My role is to oversee the functioning of various education and outreach projects that facilitate networking and promote the education of young people on polar research, as well as raising public awareness about polar science and the impacts of climate change. I have been involved in organising two workshops for early career polar scientists held in Moscow and Cambridge, which facilitated collaboration between UK and Russian Arctic researchers. We expect this beneficial initiative to develop into further cooperation between the two countries.

To increase public understanding of Arctic systems and their response to and impact on

global changes, I recently contributed to *Ice Alive*, a short documentary that premiered at the Royal Geographical Society in March 2018. The film highlights the importance of microbial habitats in the Arctic. Chris Hadfield – the first Canadian to walk in space – puts polar science into context in the film, saying 'Ignorance is bliss. But in an increasingly complex world, knowledge may be your only means for survival, and ignorance no longer becomes blissful'.

I have learnt that, in order to answer the world's most pressing questions on climate change and deliver improved knowledge, it is imperative that we foster and nourish international links. This will help us to understand and predict unprecedented changes in the polar regions and their effects on local, regional, and global systems. **CK**

To watch *Ice Alive* and find out more about Archana's work, visit <http://vimeo.com/258993236>

SUPPORTING WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

In November 2017, the CSC launched a new programme: Commonwealth Rutherford Fellowships, supporting highly skilled researchers to spend one or two years conducting postdoctoral research at a UK university. The fellowships are funded by the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) through the Rutherford Fund, with the aim of attracting global talent and supporting the UK's research base. 48 Commonwealth Rutherford Fellows took up their awards in March 2018 – here, six Fellows explain their research, and its aims and impact.

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



Dr Rene Christena Lawrance,
2017 Commonwealth Rutherford
Fellow from India, University of
Sheffield

FIGHTING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Due to the unrestrained use of antibiotics, microorganisms that cause disease have evolved to be multidrug resistant. This includes several bacteria that are common in hospital-acquired infections, such as *E. coli*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Enterococcus faecium*. These organisms have been identified as 'priority pathogens' by the World

Health Organization (WHO) – bacteria for which new antibiotics are urgently needed. My work aims to use colicin M, a potent bacterial toxin, to develop novel and innovative antimicrobials. The hope is that biotech and pharmaceutical companies will be able to use the results of my research to provide new medicines for the benefit of patients in the UK and worldwide.

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



Dr Bathsheba Mahenge, 2017
Commonwealth Rutherford Fellow
from Tanzania, London School of
Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

HELPING SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a serious public health problem and human rights issue that transcends age, ethnicity, education, and socioeconomic status. Globally, it has been estimated that one in three women have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence in their lifetime. IPV has been linked to several adverse health effects, both physical and mental, that not only affect the victims but also those around them.

I will explore the effectiveness of informal coping strategies used by women who experience IPV. By using longitudinal data from Mwanza, Tanzania, the study will go beyond the field's current almost-exclusive reliance on cross-sectional studies, which look at a population at a single point in time. The results from the study will provide high-quality evidence to help create targeted interventions.

DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE SOLAR CELL TECHNOLOGY

Photovoltaic electricity – produced from solar power – is one of the best alternatives to fossil fuels. Thin film photovoltaic technologies are emerging as strong contenders for the next generation of solar cells. In order to achieve the goal of a cost-effective, environmentally-friendly, long-term sustainable technology, I will explore novel copper

zinc tin sulphide (CZTS) materials. These materials are abundantly available, cheap, and compatible with high-throughput electrochemical methods of manufacturing. The properties of CZTS make it an ideal candidate as an alternative material for solar cells, due to its competitive photovoltaic performance.



Dr Muhunthan Nadarajah, 2017
Commonwealth Rutherford Fellow
from Sri Lanka, University of Bristol



INCREASING BROADBAND ACCESS IN LMICs

The provision of telecommunication and broadband services to everyone around the world is now more of a necessity than a luxury. Yet access to such services is still a problem in low and middle income countries. High altitude platforms (HAPs) – aerial vehicles located in the stratosphere, between 10 and 50 kilometres above the Earth – have been proposed as a solution. They provide wider coverage than

terrestrial communication networks and reduced delays compared to satellite systems, thereby addressing the disadvantages of both. My research will examine how broadband services can be provided to people living in low and middle income countries using HAPs. I will also look at different business models for the deployment of HAPs for broadband and disaster management in these countries.



Dr Abdulkarim Ayopo Oloyede,
2017 Commonwealth Rutherford
Fellow from Nigeria, University of York



REDUCING AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS AMONG POOR PEOPLE

An estimated 20 million people in Commonwealth countries are blind or have poor vision because they have a cataract (clouding of the lens in the eye). Women living in poverty in the rural areas of African and Asian countries can be ten times more likely than men to be blind because they are far less likely to undergo sight-restoring cataract surgery. Reducing this inequality is the focus of my fellowship, during which I will explore services and strategies that will help promote access to cataract surgery for women and those living in poverty. I will partner with eight eye departments in Commonwealth countries

including Kenya, Malawi, and Uganda; strengthen monitoring to track who gets cataract surgery, who doesn't, and why; investigate what can be done to reach everyone who needs treatment; and share findings clearly and with sufficient detail so that practitioners and policymakers in other settings can also remedy inequalities within cataract surgery. Ultimately, findings from this fellowship will facilitate the design of fairer cataract services and reduce avoidable blindness for women and men living in poverty.



Dr Jacqueline Ramke, 2017
Commonwealth Rutherford Fellow
from Australia, London School of
Hygiene and Tropical Medicine



UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON INSECTS

Temperature fundamentally affects all life on our planet – including insects, which are critical to our ecosystems, but are also huge pests. One sixth of the crops produced globally is lost to pests and diseases. With global temperatures rising every decade, the range and abundance of food pests is likely to increase, which will drastically affect food production, storage, and global supply. My fellowship will focus

on improving our understanding of the fundamental responses of insect models to climate change and extreme heatwaves. I will study a broad range of economically important pest species, investigating responses to simulated temperature changes by drawing from the diverse fields of ecology, evolution, and molecular biology.



Dr Ramakrishnan Vasudeva,
2017 Commonwealth Rutherford
Fellow from India, University of East
Anglia





CLOSING THE GENDER GAP

Olufunke Baruwa discusses the pursuit of equal representation for good governance.

One of the most fascinating developments in African politics has been the increase in women's political participation since the mid-1990s. Women are becoming more engaged in a variety of institutions, from local government to legislatures to even the executive. Today, African countries are leading the way in women's parliamentary representation globally, and the region includes some of the world's highest rates of equal gender representation.

Rwanda claimed the world's highest ratio of women in parliament in 2003 – today, women hold 64% of the country's legislative seats. In Senegal and South Africa, more than 40% of parliamentary seats are held by women, while in Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Uganda, over 35% of seats are occupied by women. By contrast, in the USA, women hold only 18% of the seats in the House of Representatives (lower chamber) and 20% in the Senate (upper chamber).

including four chambers with no women at all. As of October 2017, only 11 women are serving as head of state and 12 as head of government.

In Nigeria, there are only five female ministers out of 36; seven of our 109 senators are women and only 23 out of 360 are members of the House of Representatives. Women occupy a meagre 6% of parliamentary seats.

There is established and growing evidence that women's leadership improves political decision-making processes.

These changes in the African political terrain can be explained by three interrelated factors: the decline of conflict in Africa; the expansion of civil liberties, particularly in the context of shifts from authoritarian to more liberal hybrid regimes, along with the emergence of autonomous women's movements; and pressures from international actors, including UN agencies, regional organisations, donors, and other external bodies that influence the state.

But there is more to be done. As of June 2016, only 22.8% of all national parliamentarians worldwide were women, a slow increase from 11.3% in 1995. There are 38 states in which women account for fewer than 10% of parliamentarians in single or lower chambers,

INVESTING IN WOMEN

The Nigerian Women Trust Fund (NWTF) is a technical and financial resource for women in governance, established in 2011 by an unusual coalition of civil society, government, and the private sector, to close the gender gap in governance in Nigeria. I first served on the Board of Directors, then was Chief Executive Officer from 2015-2018, and am now Co-Chair.

NWTF is the first fund of its kind, set up to invest in and support the political and leadership ambitions of women in Nigeria. Its goal is to improve women's political participation and representation at all levels of governance through strategic advocacy, lobbying, capacity development, research, communications, and a wide range of collective actions of women's groups and stakeholders.

NWTF works with a wide range of state and non-state actors to push for conversations and actions that will permeate the political landscape to inspire and build the capacity of women to participate in the democratic space.

There is established and growing evidence that women's leadership improves political decision-making processes. Women demonstrate political leadership by working across party lines through parliamentary women's meetings – even in the most politically combative environments – and by championing issues of gender equality, such as the elimination of gender-based violence, parental leave and childcare, pensions, gender equality laws, and electoral reform.

THE CHALLENGES

The key challenges faced by women in participating in politics and governance include overcoming sociocultural and religious perceptions of their role and the wider electorate who adhere to these. In Nigeria, women are faced with a shrinking democratic space as political stakes become higher. Marginalised and vulnerable groups, including women and young people, are the first hit. The financial capital needed to run for office in Nigeria has also led to the system being saturated by men who have access to large funds, which most women lack.

NWTF has supported the election campaigns of over 200 women and leads the She Impact movement in Nigeria – a coalition of women's groups pushing for inclusion and equal gender representation. We have also carried out voter education for over 130,000 women across Nigeria, and built the capacity of over 1,200 women to sensitise other women in order to cause a ripple effect across states. We built the capacity of over 1,100 female politicians and mobilised more than 4,000 young men and women as active citizens. Our online advocacy reaches an average of 10 million users across our social media platforms.

FACING THE FUTURE

In 2017, we launched the Young Women in Politics Forum (with support from the US National Endowment for Democracy and UK Aid's Voices for Change project) to organise young women in different political parties into a movement that can push for change and negotiate spaces for young women in the democratic space in Nigeria.

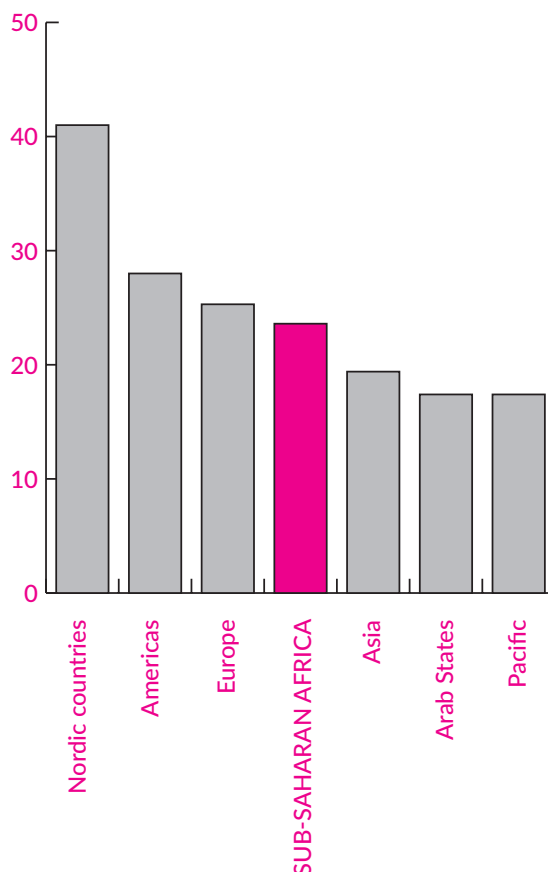
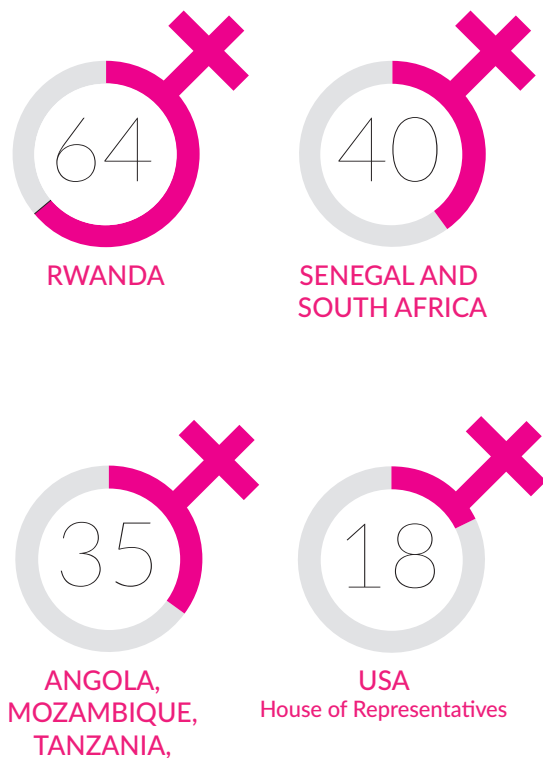
Women are largely short-changed in the political and democratic space in Nigeria. For young women, it is double jeopardy – they are young, and they are female in a patriarchal and largely age-defined space that leaves little or no room for marginalised groups to participate. Considering that the average age of the women currently in parliament is 50, young women have the short end of the stick in our current democratic dispensation and are clearly marginalised in decision-making processes.

The forum is working towards closing the intergenerational gap among women in politics by providing a platform for cross-learning, exchange of ideas, and mobilisation of supporters across political parties. The main aim of the forum is to maintain a continuous pool of women leaders in Nigeria who can fill elected and non-elected positions in the country.

My time at NWTF has focused on the big picture, developing networks and alliances with stakeholders that have led to an expansion of the space for dialogue and action. This has created an environment that supports and empowers women, providing ongoing resources for them to engage in the political space. My ultimate goal is to help create a movement for change in Nigeria, and I believe this can only be achieved by building supportive spaces for women to exercise their power.

CK

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE WOMEN?



Olufunke Baruwa is a 2011 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Nigeria – she studied for a Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy and Management at the University of York.



THE EVIL TWIN OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Roshan Ramessur analyses the impact of ocean acidification on marine life and local economies in Mauritius.

Ocean acidification – the reduction in the pH of the ocean over an extended period of time – occurs when carbon dioxide is absorbed by seawater. This increases its acidity and also reduces the level of carbonate ion – an essential building block required by marine animals and plants to help build shells, skeletons, and other hard parts.

The current rate of acidification is nearly ten times faster than at any time in the past 50 million years, outpacing the ocean's capacity to restore oceanic pH and carbonate chemistry. This rapid pace of change has given marine organisms and ecosystems – and humans – very limited time to adjust or evolve. At the current rate of global carbon dioxide emissions, the average acidity of the surface ocean is expected to increase by 100-150% over pre-industrial levels by the end of this century.

My research team at the University of Mauritius is investigating ocean acidification along the western coast of the country. Using SAMIs (submersible autonomous moored instruments) and pH sensors, we monitor seawater carbonate chemistry and assess the effects of climate change on coastal systems in Mauritius, in particular the increasing rate of carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere.

ECONOMIC RISKS

The monetary value of the world's oceans has been estimated at tens of trillions of US dollars. But the current decline in ocean assets provides a profound challenge to the future of the blue economy – the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth while preserving ecosystem health – which sits at the core of the African Union and individual countries' aspirations for ocean development.

Fish are a key contributor to food security, nutrition, and job creation for rural coastal populations in east Africa and the southwest Indian Ocean, which are among the poorest and most vulnerable in the region. The 30 million square kilometres of ocean off the coasts of east and southern African countries support some 60 million people living within 100 kilometres of the shore. This same ocean produces more than USD 20.8 billion in goods and services every year.

But the health of the ocean is approaching a turning point. Many principal ocean assets

are declining as a result of exploitation, at the same time as the use of ocean resources to support growth is accelerating. 35% of the fish stocks assessed in the western Indian Ocean are fully exploited and 28% are overexploited. Over the course of 25 years, Tanzania and Kenya have lost 18% of their mangroves. Over 50% of the shark species assessed in the region are considered threatened, and 71-100% of the region's coral reefs are at risk (with the exception of those in the Seychelles).

OUR RESPONSE

As a tropical island, Mauritius has a rich marine environment that has contributed to economic success through activities linked mainly to tourism and fisheries. But coastal conditions in Mauritius have declined since 2000, as a result of a rapid phase of industrialisation and urbanisation in the 1980s. The conditions of coral reefs have been deteriorating, mangrove cover has declined by 30%, wetlands are disappearing



due to constant pressure from the tourism and construction sector, and heavily polluted water has been found in a number of coastal lagoons.

Given this alarming situation, the Mauritian government set one of the five objectives of its National Biodiversity Strategic and Action Plan 2006-2015 as the maintenance of ecosystem services, including integrated coastal zone management. Examples of actions taken as a result are coastal rehabilitation, control of fishing activities in lagoon areas, and water quality monitoring. In addition, a set of national and sectoral policies and programmes have been launched to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Such initiatives have had some positive results, but much still remains to be done. If the government is to realise its aim of making the ocean sector one of the island's main economies, there is an urgent need to create markets for services – such as artisanal and offshore fisheries and aquaculture – that

will protect the ecosystem from exploitation and develop ocean and coastal resources in a sustainable way.

THE WAY AHEAD

Based on scientific data and projections, ocean acidification is a serious threat to east Africa and the southwest Indian Ocean. Considering the often-competing interests involved, the ocean needs to be managed across its entirety to ensure balanced usage that does not undermine its productivity and the many benefits it provides. A white paper on ocean acidification is now being prepared for Africa, in line with the main objectives of our research group in Mauritius, with the aim of developing ocean acidification assessments across east Africa.

The framework for building multinational ocean governance exists in the region. Regional economic and political institutions also exist, as well as sectoral agencies for fisheries, mining, shipping and others,

through which regional cooperation can be mediated.

But recognition of the seriousness of ocean acidification remains limited among the public and decision-makers. There must be a concerted effort to explain ocean acidification and the threat it poses to the environment and to the economy. The ocean in our region can no longer be viewed as a limitless space with free access for all. **CK**



Roshan Ramessur is a 1985 Commonwealth Scholar from Mauritius – he studied BSc Marine Chemistry at Bangor University.

4

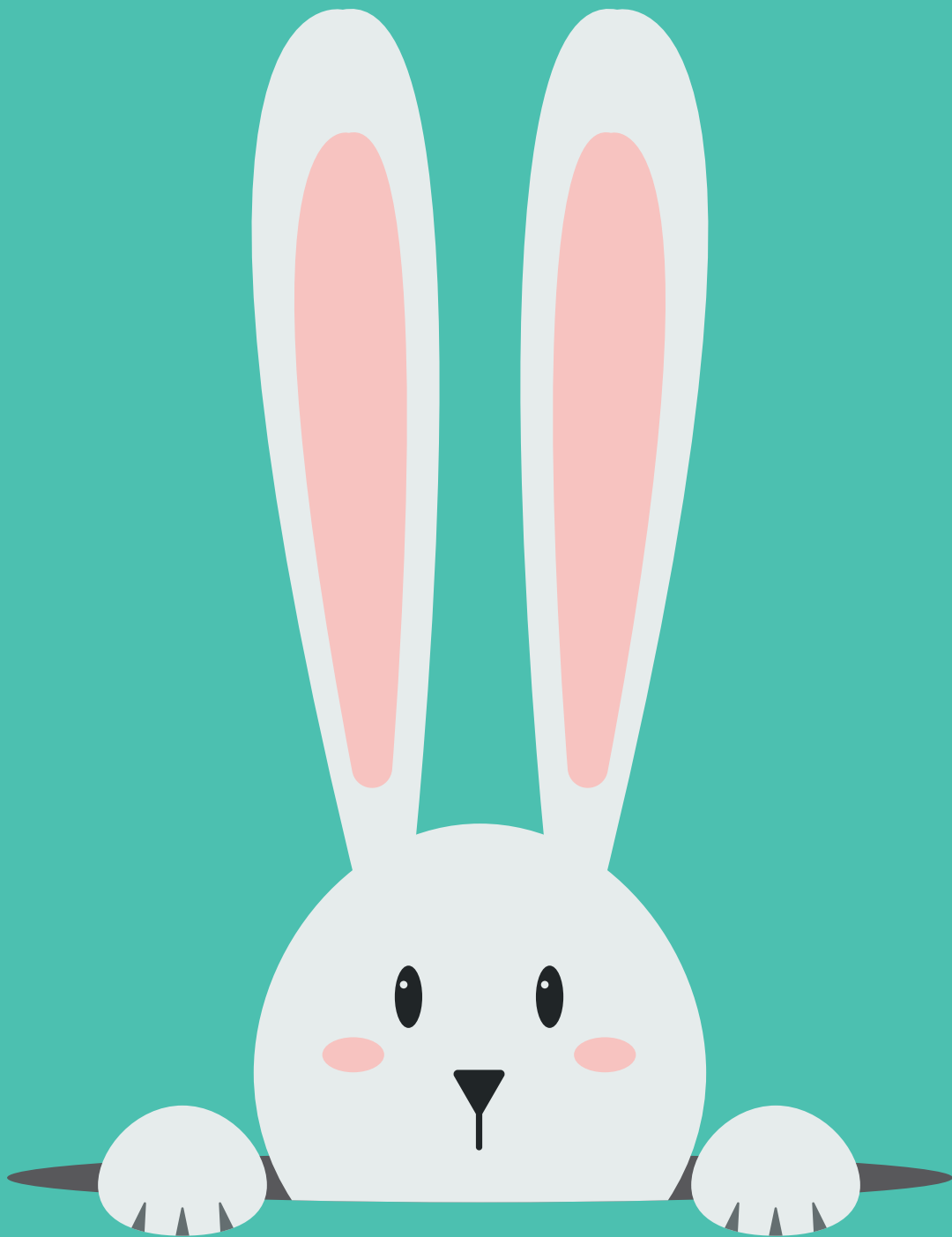
QUALITY
EDUCATION

17

PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS

TWO HEADS ARE BETTER THAN ONE

*Why is science communication important? **Cassidy Bayley** explains.*





Cassidy Bayley is a 2015 Commonwealth Scholar from South Africa – she is studying for a PhD in Biochemistry and Cell Biology at the University of Bath.

Without the ability to summarise and convey our research, what value, if any, does it hold?

Standing nervously beside my all-too-specific and overly-detailed scientific poster, I try to ignore a growing realisation that I, like many of my peers, have missed the mark. Despite this sinking suspicion, I continue in my vain endeavour to attract some interest to my bright teal poster – two and a half years of highly niche PhD research squeezed onto an A1 glossy sheet of paper. Despite hours spent painstakingly sifting through superfluous details and molecular biology jargon, my poster had still not managed to achieve its purpose successfully – to communicate science effectively.

Science communication can prove to be more difficult in practice than its seemingly innocuous name implies. In fact, communicating science can at times seem more challenging than the science itself. It is a result of the sometimes isolating and exclusive environment that can go hand in hand with intensive scientific research. An environment where the expanse of the 'unknown' is so vast that choosing a single, highly specific topic and delineating its intricacies over the course of an entire career is not uncommon.

But herein lies a question that many scientists fail to confront. Without the ability to summarise and convey our research, to link it to a wider network of knowledge and real-world application, what value, if any, does it hold?

This is especially true today, when information is so easily attainable. Thanks to the internet, our ease of access to it, and the prolific boom in digital media that followed, science is a subject accessed and analysed no longer by scientists alone, but by all members of society. Thus, effective science communication – where principles and advancements in the fields of medicine, engineering, and others can be accurately and clearly relayed to and criticised by the public – is vital. However, as basic as this requirement may seem, it is not so easily fulfilled.

The seemingly simple concept of science communication was the focus of the 2018 STEM for Britain event – an annual poster competition for early career researchers. Held at the bustling Portcullis House in Westminster, the final exhibition showcased groundbreaking science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM) research to members of the UK Houses of Parliament.

Back to the visual cacophony of graphs, images, and text: my contribution to this prestigious competition. I put a lot of effort into the poster and I was proud of it. Yet, staring wide-eyed at its bold and striking infographics, I realised that the urge to share the elaborate details of my work had overshadowed the simple messages I needed to get across: what I am doing, how I am doing it, and, most importantly, why I am doing it.

These are obvious questions, but once you have plunged down the rabbit hole of research, such questions are often evaded. Events such as STEM for Britain are valuable for scientists like me. They provide us with the opportunity to see our own research and that of our peers through different eyes – to step out of that deep and winding tunnel of complex science, and readdress some of the basics: the what, the how, and the why. They inspire new collaborations and fresh ideas, and encourage us to think about the wider scope of our work and how it may or may not be of value to our leaders, policymakers, and the general public.

The international STEM scene highlights the value of science communication further. While countries such as the UK and the USA continue to increase their investment in STEM education at both school and tertiary levels, other countries such as my own (South Africa) still lag behind. It is hard to tell whether this is due to a lack of mismanagement of funding, poor policymaking, or simply a need for more time and natural progression to catch up.

However, the correlation between STEM investment and economic growth is clear, and low and middle income countries in Africa and elsewhere would be wise to pay heed to this. The establishment of both communicative and collaborative efforts – such as the numerous science parks, research institutes, and science organisations found in the UK and across the EU – is key to the advancement of scientific research in these countries. What we can learn from major science research contributors such as the UK and the EU is that when we nurture national and international science communication, we demonstrate the wisdom of the humble phrase 'two heads are better than one'.

Attending STEM for Britain and other events has cemented my appreciation of good science communication and collaboration, and its paramount importance for my home country. It has inspired me to exit the rabbit hole on a more permanent basis and pursue a career in science communication and development. As for my A1-sized, teal-coloured attempt at communicating science to a general audience, I will take it as a learning curve – and with the tips I picked up from the more experienced and talented communicators in attendance, I hope to have better luck next time!

CK

2

ZERO
HUNGER



12

RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



15

LIFE
ON LAND



DANGER RETURNS

Nerry Corr highlights the threat of a re-emerging cattle disease in the Gambia.



If uncontrolled, the disease will inflict a very heavy economic loss on farming communities.



Nerry Corr is a 2006 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from the Gambia – he studied MSc International Animal Health at the University of Edinburgh.

Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (CBPP) is a contagious bacterial disease that affects the lungs of cattle and other animals. Symptoms include pneumonia and inflammation of the lung membranes. The likelihood of animals contracting this disease can be as high as 75-90%, and around 50% of those with the disease will die. Only 21% of animals are resistant.

The disease had not been seen in the Gambia since it was wiped out in 1971 – until an outbreak was detected in the Niamina Dankunku district in the Central River Region South in 2012. As the Regional Director for Livestock in this region, it is my responsibility to coordinate the diagnosis and control of CBPP and other endemic diseases. This includes supervising veterinary staff across the region and providing training to farmers on disease recognition and prevention.

HOW DID IT COME BACK?

CBPP is transmitted by direct contact between infected and healthy cattle and the inhalation of airborne droplets, for example, through coughing or sneezing. Once cattle are infected, the practice of herding them together closely causes the rapid spread of the disease. The circumstances leading to its re-emergence in the Gambia have not been clearly established; however, the high movement of livestock in this region may be a significant factor.

The Gambia is surrounded on both sides by Senegal, and the movement of livestock between these two countries for sale at weekly markets is a regular occurrence. There is also a wide trade in livestock from Mauritania and Guinea Bissau, as well as from Mali, where CBPP has never been eradicated. Livestock from Mali are not certified healthy or quarantined before they are transported and sold in the Gambia, and therefore may be the source of the disease. Once farmers identify CBPP in their herds, they sell infected cattle quickly before they die, making these markets the likely cause of its spread.

The seasonal movement of animals within the Gambia between highland and lowland pastures is another contributing factor. The Central River Region South is a popular grazing destination for thousands of cattle during the dry season, because of the abundance of green pastures and fresh water. There has also been a level of complacency and weak disease surveillance since CBPP was eradicated, as cattle within the Gambia have not been vaccinated against the disease.

WHAT EFFECT COULD IT HAVE?

The threat to the trade in livestock and livestock products is a cause for concern. In the Gambia, livestock serve as insurance against the vagaries of the weather and other natural disasters which affect agricultural production, as well as acting as savings for most rural farmers. Cattle are also relied upon to meet the social and religious obligations of Gambians. If uncontrolled, the disease will inflict a very heavy economic loss on farming communities.

The main issue is that the Gambia is surrounded by other countries that have been unsuccessful in eliminating CBPP to date. The resources involved in controlling and eradicating the disease are enormous, and it usually takes five to ten years. Eradication of the disease in the Gambia relies upon concerted efforts by all neighbouring countries to develop a unilateral strategy to eliminate the disease in the sub-region. It requires high political commitment in order to convince livestock farmers, most of whom are still very conservative, that their livestock must be vaccinated.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Following confirmation of the disease through laboratory tests, various actions have been taken to curb it. We have raised awareness among the general public through mass media, as well as among local government authorities, including all village heads and cattle owners. We have offered refresher training for livestock assistants in disease recognition, diagnosis, and sample taking. We have also provided training for vaccinators on vaccine handling and vaccination strategies.

The FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) has implemented a technical cooperation programme in response to the Gambian government's request for support in combating CBPP and vaccinating livestock. Countrywide vaccination campaigns have been carried out every year since 2013, through this and other programmes. All healthy cattle above the age of three months should be vaccinated for immunity, which develops after two weeks, and will last for approximately a year. I am responsible for ensuring that all cattle in the Central River Region South are vaccinated and that vaccines are kept and transported correctly, as well as keeping a record of vaccination data from across the region.

I am now conducting monthly meetings at the regional veterinary headquarters where all the veterinary assistants gather to discuss challenges and keep abreast of the work and progress in eradicating CBPP.

CK



CHAMPIONING FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Commonwealth Scholars describe the impact of their journeys on the Emerging International Leaders Programme at Cumberland Lodge.

Since 2016, 42 Commonwealth Scholars have graduated from the Emerging International Leaders Programme on freedom of religion or belief at Cumberland Lodge, the educational foundation in Windsor Great Park. Altogether, 100 international postgraduate students from 51 UK universities have now completed the programme, with funding from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) Magna Carta Fund for Human Rights and Democracy.

The programme aims to equip high-potential students with the skills and insight necessary to drive debate,

influence policy, and build a powerful global network behind freedom of religion or belief, and to encourage them to become advocates for human rights in their universities and home countries. Participants were selected based on their strong academic records and their potential to become future leaders and opinion formers in their communities.

Here, five Commonwealth Scholars describe their experiences on the programme and the impact it has had on their academic work and beyond.

Khyati Tripathi

As a PhD student, I admit that I had started to live in a small bubble of my research and academia – until I got the opportunity to be a part of the Emerging International Leaders Programme.

Through three residential retreats, the programme provided a rich intellectual space and knowledge with which to absorb and debate the intricacies of freedom of religion or belief around the world. We were provided with a safe space for unsafe conversations at Cumberland

Lodge. The participants were from all over the world and each of us had our own set of ideas and perceptions, which initiated some thought-provoking discussions. It was an amazing group, and it demonstrated how you can agree to disagree and respect the opinions of others.

I have ceased to look at the bracketed definitions of religion and have started to perceive it, instead, as a powerful instrument for expressing one's freedom. This was much more than a learning experience; it was liberating for

me. It was stimulating to realise that I, as an individual, can be an agent of change and initiate dialogue to encourage the people around me to reflect on the importance of mutual respect and peaceful coexistence when it comes to religion or belief. This programme instilled in me a sense of responsibility to propagate the significance of freedom of religion or belief, avenues for which I am now seeking in my own research on the ritual practices of different faith groups.



Khyati Tripathi, 2016
Commonwealth Split-site Scholar from India, PhD Psychosocial Studies, University of Delhi and Birkbeck, University of London

Satheesmohan Santhiramoohanathas

The programme centred around a theme for each retreat, introducing participants to global human rights frameworks, considering freedom of religion or belief in dialogue with other freedoms, and finally considering practical responses to promoting and protecting this right. This approach was a fantastic opportunity to deepen my understanding of the subject.

More importantly, the diverse range of participants opened my heart to accept differences towards freedom of religion or belief. The significance of collective learning for future action was a critical element of the programme, which has also instilled a positive energy for future collaboration.

Freedom of religion and belief continues to be critically

threatened in many parts of the world. There are conflicts and violations of human rights as a result of religious intolerance. As a conflict resolution practitioner, I strongly believe that positive transformation in freedom of religion or belief is possible; achieving this requires awareness and collaboration of the kind that we have already begun to realise through the programme.



Satheesmohan Santhiramoohanathas, 2017
Commonwealth Scholar from Sri Lanka, MA Conflict Resolution, University of Bradford

Andrew Ssemata

The programme brought freedom of religion or belief to life through a combination of academic rigour, real life case studies, and facilitators whose knowledge and experiences were deep and lived. Being part of this select cohort of young leaders from diverse backgrounds, faiths, religions, beliefs, countries, and continents gave me great insight. We came together to learn from one another with great respect and dignity. Imagine the kind of world it would be if this happened every day and everywhere!

Uganda has recently started experiencing localised pools of

religious freedom violations, especially between Christians, Muslims, and those who hold traditional beliefs. I want to work with affected communities to mediate between conflicting parties and find a lasting solution. Together with a colleague from the programme who has instrumental links to religious institutions in Uganda, we hope to work with existing NGOs and become strong voices and advocates by sharing our knowledge and experiences, especially in schools and universities. We will call for a committee in the Ugandan parliament that will stand up for freedom of religion or belief and work with similar committees in

other countries, to help create a stable ground for this freedom to thrive.

Knowledge is power; I now feel empowered to share experiences, build networks, and learn about other faiths and religions. I have a greater awareness of the need to respect, uphold, and promote the right to freedom of religion or belief, and to acknowledge it in my everyday interactions with different people. Through small but significant acts, we can make a change and bring about a real difference in society.



Andrew Ssemata, 2016
Commonwealth Split-site Scholar from Uganda, PhD Life Sciences, Makerere University and Aston University

We were provided with a safe space for unsafe conversations.

Cherisse Francis

The programme has undoubtedly been one of the highlights of my Commonwealth journey. It has allowed me to forge relationships with other changemakers from across the globe. It also increased my insight into religious conflicts, issues, and realities around the world, making me even more appreciative of the relative peace that exists in my own community. A major highlight of the programme was that we transcended our own beliefs, both religious and non-religious,

to interact from a place of mutual respect and human dignity.

As an academic, this experience challenged what I have learned within formal educational settings with practical contemporary applications. The speakers and facilitators all enabled critical thinking, providing up-to-date and pertinent resources. As a result of engaging with these people and discussions at the retreats, the quality of my degree coursework has been significantly enhanced.

Moving forward, I intend to use the information and techniques to create and implement a project in my home country targeted at increasing tolerance among religious and non-religious youth through education, outreach, and creative activities. The programme allowed me to share and improve this idea with a receptive audience. The feedback and shared experiences of my colleagues have provided current operational benchmarks for me as I develop my initiative.



Cherisse Francis, 2017
Commonwealth Scholar from Barbados, LLM Human Rights and Criminal Justice, University of Aberdeen

Asmatullah

As an undergraduate student, I used to have all kinds of debates and discussions with my friends, but we never thought about or touched upon the diverse aspects of freedom of religion and belief. The programme opened new vistas for me in terms of the role, potential, and intricacies of religion or belief in the lives of individuals. I now have a firm understanding of religious rights and freedoms, from both a human rights and academic perspective.

The enlightening lectures, talks, and group activities broadened my understanding of different religions and of what people and groups across the globe are doing to protect and advance freedom of religion or belief for everyone. I was particularly inspired by the work that the University of Cambridge in the UK is doing in the areas of comparative critical interpretations (exegesis) of, and debates on, religious texts.

I am now in a better position to be an advocate for freedom of religion or belief in my home country, and I am fortunate that, when I take up any venture in this area, I will have so many people from the programme to look up to and count on for the success of my own work. As a member of an extremely religious society, I plan to take up religion and its influence on my people, whether positive or negative, as the subject of my further studies.



Asmatullah, 2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Pakistan, MA Arts, Enterprise and Development, University of Warwick



CARE FOR THE CARERS

*The number of children in sub-Saharan Africa orphaned as a result of HIV/AIDS is increasing. **Carla Sharp** looks at the role of community care in ensuring that they are supported.*



Over 270 million children globally fail to reach their full physical, cognitive, psychological, or socioemotional potential due to poverty, poor health and nutrition, and insufficient care and stimulation. Children in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia – home to more than one billion children – are disproportionately affected.

The United Nations' Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health outlines a threefold agenda to ensure that children reach their full potential: Survive (ending preventable deaths), Thrive (ensuring health and wellbeing), and Transform (expanding enabling environments). For over a decade, our research team at the University of Houston, USA, has been working with the University of the Free State and other community and academic partners in the township of Manguang, outside Bloemfontein in the Free State in South Africa, to contribute to this agenda.

Supporting child development

UNAIDS estimates that, between 2001 and 2012, the number of children worldwide who had lost one or both parents to AIDS-related causes increased from 10 million to 17.8 million. An estimated 90% were living in sub-Saharan Africa. Despite the progress made in reducing the spread of HIV, AIDS-related orphanhood continues to be a significant problem for local communities, national governments, and international aid organisations.

Responsive and sensitive caregiving – where a parent/adult responds to a child's signals – has been identified as a key factor in achieving a child's potential. Our team's first project focused on tools to assess the emotions of children affected by HIV/AIDS and their

relationship to society, in my home country of South Africa. We evaluated a common psychiatric diagnostic tool and determined its cultural validity in Sesotho-speaking families.

We then developed a wider project, working with community-based organisations to collect data from children, caregivers, and teachers and interviewing care workers and directors. As a result, we successfully implemented a short screening process to identify children in need of mental health services. We learnt a lot about the high level of poverty in HIV-affected communities and the lives of community-based caregivers, and identified a strong need for sustainable interventions specifically designed for care workers who work with HIV-affected children on a daily basis in often challenging circumstances.

With our fieldwork team and local partners (Tshwaraganang Day Care Center, Hope for All, Tshepong Care Centre, and Atlehang Multi-Purpose Center), we secured funding to develop and evaluate an intervention for community care workers. Based on the premise that adverse circumstances – such as HIV/AIDS, poverty, violence, war, undernutrition, and the breakdown of extended family structures – affect a person's ability to provide the best care, we searched for an intervention that was evidence-based but culturally transportable and, most of all, appropriate for low-resource settings.

We identified the Mediational Intervention for Sensitizing Caregivers (MISC) as an approach that would provide the needed support. MISC trains caregivers how to maximise emotional and cognitive development specifically in poor communities in Africa, Asia, the United States, and Europe. It is an educational approach that

aims to enhance the wellbeing of children and their socioemotional and cognitive development through their daily interactions with the adults who care for them. With the support of colleagues at Bar-Ilan University in Israel and Michigan State University in the USA, we trained two MISC trainers, who then began working directly with care workers and children in the community.

The role of community care

As we await our quantitative outcomes data, we feel optimistic that our approach to sustainability holds promise. The lack of psychologists and psychiatrists in low-income countries highlights the need for mental health workers, and the use of community-based organisations as strategic points of intervention holds enormous potential to address child health at grassroots level.

Although community-based healthcare has been slow to develop in many sub-Saharan African countries, the tide has changed, and community-based organisations are often able to reach the most vulnerable groups in society. In South Africa, for instance, there are currently approximately 60,000 community care workers working with HIV/AIDS-infected and affected individuals.

We have been humbled – by the generosity, strength, resilience, and creativity of our fieldworkers, MISC partners, and trainers – but mostly by the courage of the community care workers and children who overcome unimaginable hardship every day. **CK**

Carla Sharp is a 1996 Commonwealth Scholar from South Africa – she studied for a PhD in Development Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge

ALUMNI NEWS

The updates below (listed by year of award) summarise just some of the achievements of our global alumni. To let us know about your successes, email alumni@cscuk.org.uk

1963

James HIRSCHFELD has been awarded the 2016 Euler Medal by the Institute of Combinatorics at the University of Sussex, in recognition of his lifetime career contributions to combinatorial research. (Scholar from Australia, PhD Pure Maths, University of Edinburgh)

1986

Amidu Olalekan SANNI has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Fountain University, Nigeria. (Scholar from Nigeria, PhD Arabic, SOAS, University of London)

Sonya STEPHENS has been appointed President of Mount Holyoke College, USA. She has been Acting President since July 2016, overseeing the implementation of a diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative and a focus on ensuring the college's long-term financial stability. (Canadian Commonwealth Scholar from the UK, MA French Studies, Université de Montréal)

Renu SWARUP has been appointed Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology at the Ministry of Science and Technology, India. (Scholar from India, PhD Genetics and Plant Breeding, University of East Anglia)

1990

Nuruddeen Abba ABDULLAHI has been appointed Registrar and Chief Executive of the Association of National Accountants of Nigeria. (Scholar from Nigeria, PhD Finance, University of Exeter)

1992

Sandeep SANCHETI has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the SRM Institute of Science and Technology, India. His previous roles include Director of the National Institute of Technology Delhi, and Vice-Chancellor of Manipal University. (Scholar from India, PhD Engineering, Queen's University Belfast)



▲ Alison Hill

1993

Nigel CLARKE has been appointed Minister of Finance and the Public Service of Jamaica, a short time after being elected Member of Parliament for the constituency of North Western St Andrew. (Scholar from Jamaica, MSc Statistics, University of Oxford)

1996

Vinay KAPOOR has published a book, *Acute Pancreatitis: An A-Z* (CRC Press (Taylor & Francis Group), 2017), to support medical students, postgraduate trainees, and practicing doctors in diagnosing and treating acute pancreatitis effectively. (Academic Fellow from India, King's College London)

1999

Lily KONG has been appointed President of Singapore Management University. She will take up her post on 1 January 2019. (Academic Fellow from Singapore, University College London)

2001

Neelu ROHMETRA has received the First Ladies Award from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, India, in recognition of her appointment as the first woman to head an Indian Institute of Management (IIM). She was honoured alongside 100 other exceptional

female achievers by the President of India at a ceremony earlier this year. (Academic Fellow from India, Lancaster University)

2002

Alison HILL has developed a new degree in Applied Human Nutrition at Solent University, UK – the only applied undergraduate degree accredited by the UK Association for Nutrition. (New Zealand Commonwealth Scholar from the UK, MSc Nutritional Science, Massey University)

2003

Viola BIRSS has been awarded the Order of the University of Calgary for her role in the leadership and direction of the university's strategic research theme 'Energy innovations for today and tomorrow'. She is a Professor at the university and a leader in research on nanomaterials for renewable energy. (New Zealand Scholar from Canada, PhD Anodic Films, University of Auckland)

Thashi CHANG has been appointed the first Professor in Neurology at the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. (Scholar from Sri Lanka, PhD Clinical Neurology, University of Oxford)

2006

Joanna LANGILLE has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law at Western University, Canada. (Scholar from Canada, MPhil International Relations, University of Oxford)

2007

Zipporah ALI has received an honorary degree from the University of Dundee, UK, in recognition of her work developing palliative care in Kenya. She also received the 2018 Women4Africa International Humanitarian of the Year award. (Distance Learning Scholar from Kenya, MSc Palliative Care, University of Dundee)

ALUMNI NEWS



▲ Sybil Obuobi



▲ Manasij Pal Chowdhury



▲ Ogochukwu Winifred Odeigah

2008

Chinwe CHUKWUDI has been awarded the 2017 National Young Scientists' Prize in Microbiology by the Nigerian Young Academy. (Scholar from Nigeria, PhD Molecular Biology and Microbial Genetics, Royal Veterinary College; 2017 Academic Fellow, Royal Veterinary College)

2009

Isaac SHAWA has been appointed the American Society for Microbiology's Country Ambassador to Malawi. (Scholar from Malawi, MSc Medical Microbiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

2010

Siana NKYA has been elected an Affiliate of the African Academy of Sciences from 2018-2022. She is currently a Research Fellow in the Department of Parasitology, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, Ghana. (Split-site Scholar from Tanzania, PhD Human Genetics, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences and King's College London)

George ONYANGO has won third prize in the Japanese Award for Most Innovative Development Project, a competitive grant programme that recognises innovative social development initiatives. His project aims to rehabilitate women and children who have worked in dumpsites through vocational and entrepreneurship skills development. (Professional Fellow from Kenya, International HIV/AIDS Alliance)

2012

Sybil OBUOBI has received the 2017 Best Graduate Researcher Award from the Faculty of Science at the National University of Singapore, where she is studying for a PhD on a Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA) scholarship. She was a 2017-2018 Otto Bayer Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research in Germany. (Shared Scholar from Ghana, MSc Drug Delivery, Aston University)

2013

Shambhobi GHOSH has received a merit scholarship from Nalanda University, India, to complete a Master's degree at the School of Ecology and Environmental Studies, where she will explore the complex relationship between the natural environment and human activities. (Scholar from India, MA English: 1850-present, King's College London)

Monidipa MONDAL has become the first Indian to be nominated for a Hugo Award, science fiction's most prestigious award. She is a finalist in the Best Related Work category for 2018. (Shared Scholar from India, MLitt Publishing Studies/International Publishing Management, University of Stirling)

2015

Moses ASIIMWE has been working as a Financial Analyst at the Rwanda Development Board, the country's flagship accelerator and development institution, supporting future business opportunities in Rwanda. (Shared Scholar from Rwanda, MSc International Business, Lancaster University)

Valentina NDOLO has been awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship to study for a PhD in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Cambridge, UK. She will be studying the spatial analysis of anthrax occurrence patterns in Kenya. She is the founder of the STEMing Africa Initiative, which advocates for the inclusion of women in science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM). (Scholar from Kenya, MSc International Health and Tropical Medicine, University of Oxford)

Neema OPIYO has been awarded a Management of Projects PhD studentship by the School of Mechanical Aerospace and Civil Engineering at the University of Manchester, UK. Her PhD will focus on policymaking related to affordable housing in Tanzania. (Scholar from Tanzania, MSc Construction Project Management, University of Manchester)

Rachael OSAGIE has been appointed to a committee responsible for the establishment of an institute of graduate medical education at Ambrose Alli University, Nigeria. (Academic Fellow from Nigeria, University of Birmingham)

Nikhil Srinivasapura VENKATESHMURTHY has been awarded a Bernard Lown Scholarship in Cardiovascular Health at the Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health, USA. (Distance Learning Scholar, MSc Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

2016

Manasij Pal CHOWDHURY has been awarded a President's Doctoral Award to pursue a PhD in Bioarchaeology at the University of Manchester, UK. He will study the degradation of various biomolecules in



▲ Neeraj Kumar Sharma (left)

archaeological bones. He received the Best Graduating Chemist prize from the School of Chemistry at Manchester and the Royal Society of Chemistry's Best Postgraduate Student prize for his Master's degree. (Scholar from India, MSc Chemistry, University of Manchester)

Muhammad Arif BIN SARWAR KHAN has received the Concrete Centre Award from the University of Leeds, UK, for achieving the highest mark in the advanced concrete design module and an overall distinction in his Master's degree. (Scholar from Malaysia, MSc Structural Engineering, University of Leeds)

Ravneel KUMAR has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Crop Production at Fiji National University. (Scholar from Fiji, MSc Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, University of Exeter)

Oguchukwu Winifred ODEGAH has been awarded a project support grant by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for research into the non-medical use of prescription drugs in Nigeria among lower-income earning women. (Split-site Scholar from Nigeria, PhD Psychology, University of Ibadan and University of Surrey)

Neeraj Kumar SHARMA has been highly commended for the Rising Star Award at the 2018 Ground Engineering Awards. (Scholar from India, MSc Soil Mechanics and Environmental Geotechnics, Imperial College London)

Vishal SHARMA has been appointed Head of the Department of Electronics at the Cluster University of Jammu, India. (Split-site Scholar from India, PhD Physics, University of Delhi and University of Sheffield)

OBITUARIES

1963

Rabindra Kumar NANDA was a Professor and former Head of the Department of Chemistry at Utkal University, India. During his tenure, he was dedicated to developing the infrastructure to support research activity and output. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1980 to study at Texas A&M University, USA. A life member of the Indian Chemical Society and Odisha Bigyan Academy, he received the Sir J C Bose Memorial Award for his contributions to chemistry. Rabindra passed away on 6 April 2018. (Scholar from India, Inorganic Chemistry, University College London)

1969

Akintola Olawale FAYANJUOLA was a passionate maths educator, teaching in both Nigeria and the USA. After his Commonwealth Scholarship, he returned to his post at the University of Ife as a Lecturer in the Department of Mathematics. In 1975, he was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Brown University and the University of Rhode Island, USA. He later taught at the University of Rhode Island and the City College of New York, before finishing his career in the Providence school district. Akintola passed away on 2 April 2018. (Scholar from Nigeria, MSc Pure Maths, University of Hull)

1970

Charles KRAUTHAMMER was a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and television commentator. He graduated from Harvard Medical School after his Commonwealth Scholarship, and then served as Chief Resident in Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, USA. During this time he led new research into manic depression, which led to him joining the National Institute of Mental Health. Simultaneously, he began contributing articles about politics to *The New Republic*, where he became an editor in 1981. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 1987 for his 'witty and insightful columns on

national issues' which he wrote weekly for *The Washington Post* from 1985 to 2016. He appeared as a regular panellist on TV shows on the PBS and Fox News networks for over 20 years. He received acclaim as a leading conservative voice in the USA for his writing on politics and foreign policy. Charles passed away on 21 June 2018 (Scholar from Canada, BPhil Politics, University of Oxford)

1971

John Hanson BATTYE held a long career in education. His former roles included Director of Continuing Education at Saint Mary's University, Principal of the Cumberland Community College, and Director of Education for the Juan de Fuca Hospitals, Canada. He co-founded the Crocus 80 Theatre and offered support to local community theatre groups. John passed away on 19 January 2018. (Scholar from Canada, PhD Social History, University of Warwick)

1983

Michael NABOFA devoted his life to the scholarship of African traditional religion. He was a Professor at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, and led pioneering research into the Igbe religious movement in Benin and Esanland. He was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at John Carroll University, USA, in 2001-2002. Michael passed away on 8 April 2018. (Academic Fellow from Nigeria, Religious Studies)

EVENTS

COMMONWEALTH SERVICE

Scholars attended the annual Commonwealth Service to mark Commonwealth Day, held at Westminster Abbey in March 2018



MAXIMISING YOUR IMPACT

Two workshops were held at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park, in March and May 2018



COMMONWEALTH BIG LUNCH

A celebration of Commonwealth connections, held at the University of London in April 2018



'YOUR COMMONWEALTH' YOUTH CHALLENGE EVENT

An event bringing young leaders of the Commonwealth together to share and develop innovative ideas on how to drive the youth agenda forward, held at the Commonwealth Secretariat in July 2018



COMMONWEALTH VS CHEVENING SCHOLARS FOOTBALL MATCH

The annual match between the two scholarship schemes was held at the University of Sheffield in July 2018 – the Chevening team were the victors!



CSC FAREWELL EVENT

Our annual event for departing Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, held in London in July 2018

EVENTS



BANGLADESH

Alumni held a workshop for university students on research and career development in Dhaka in January 2018



GHANA

(Right) Recently returned Scholars at a reintegration workshop, held in Accra in January 2018

(Left) Alumni delivered basic life support training at a local school in Kumasi in February 2018

MALAWI

The launch of the Malawi alumni association, held in Blantyre in March 2018



NIGERIA

A welcome home featuring an alumni panel discussion on 'Harnessing skills for future development', held in Abuja in January 2018



PAKISTAN

Alumni led a panel discussion on 'The UK alumni journey – building expertise and navigating challenges' as part of a welcome home event, held in Islamabad in March 2018



SIERRA LEONE

A panel discussion on 'Ambassadors for national development', held in Freetown in February 2018



SRI LANKA

A panel discussion on 'Leveraging UK higher education in Sri Lanka: benefits of Commonwealth Scholarships' took place at a welcome home event, held in Colombo in March 2018



COMMONWEALTH DAY

Alumni celebrated Commonwealth Day 2018 through events and community activities held in Barbados, Cameroon, Jamaica, Nigeria, St Lucia, and Zambia in March 2018



MEET THE WINNERS!

The Study UK Alumni Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of alumni who have used their experience of studying at a UK university to make a positive contribution to their communities, professions, and countries. We're delighted to see the work of so many Commonwealth Scholars recognised in the 2018 awards – congratulations to all our finalists and winners!



▲ Mavis Asare

Mavis Asare – 2010 Scholar, PhD Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences, Loughborough University – **WINNER, Professional Achievement Award, Ghana**

Mavis is a Senior Lecturer at Methodist University College, Ghana and a Clinical Sport Psychology Practitioner at the Progressive Life Centre. She has collaborated with the Ghana AIDS Commission on health promotion programmes for young people.



▲ Nelson Amo

Nelson Amo – 2010 Shared Scholar, MSc Development Studies, London School of Economics and Political Science – **Finalist, Entrepreneurial award, Ghana**

Nelson is the CEO of Innohub, a business accelerator and impact investment platform that seeks to grow small businesses and contribute to enterprising solutions to combat poverty and underdevelopment.



▲ Gloria Ansa

Gloria Akosua Ansa – 2006 Scholar, PhD Public Health, University of Leeds – **Finalist, Professional Achievement Award, Ghana**

Gloria is Head of Public Health at the University of Ghana Health Services, where she is responsible for the successful expansion of quality public health intervention and services.



▲ Eric Gyan

Eric Gyan – 2010 Shared Scholar, MSc Cancer Immunology and Biotechnology, University of Nottingham – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, Ghana**

As a Medical Doctor at Cape Coast Teaching Hospital and CEO of MED Cancer Care Foundation Ghana, Eric has been instrumental in providing cancer screening and research in Ghana.



▲ Bharath Balasubramaniam

Bharath Balasubramaniam – 2008 Shared Scholar, MSc Community Eye Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, India**

Bharath is President of the Sankara Eye Foundation, India – one of the country's biggest eyecare providers – and provides free eye surgery for those who cannot afford treatment.

Meesha Tandon – 2006 Shared Scholar, MSc Catchment Dynamics and Management, University of Leeds – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, India**

Meesha is an architect and environmental planner who has worked extensively in the urban development and water sector, focusing on supporting poor and marginalised communities.

Mahendra Gooroochurn – 2006 Scholar, PhD Mechatronics, Loughborough University – **Finalist, Professional Achievement Award, Mauritius**

Mahendra is a Lecturer at the University of Mauritius; he was previously Head of Sustainability and Research Manager at Prodesign, where he set up an energy audit management scheme to meet the country's growing demand for energy efficiency and sustainability.

Devina Lobine – 2013 Split-site Scholar, PhD Biotechnology, University of Mauritius and Durham University – **Finalist, Professional Achievement Award, Mauritius**

Devina is Youth Ambassador for the Southern Africa Network for Biosciences (SANBio), empowering students, young scientists, and entrepreneurs to collaborate to address global challenges.

Leckraj Amal Bholah – 2014 Distance Learning Scholar, MSc Global Health, University of Edinburgh – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, Mauritius**

Amal is Founder and CEO of Smart Health, an e-health startup company that aims to make healthcare services more accessible, affordable, and efficient.

Bilal Shahid – 2015 Scholar, MSc Renewable Energy and Clean Technology, University of Manchester – **WINNER, Social Impact Category, Pakistan**

Bilal is working with the Government of Punjab's Energy Department to identify energy solutions using indigenous resources in villages, with the aim of providing a secure energy supply and improving the quality of life in remote areas.

Khairul Islam – 2009 Shared Scholar, MSc Community Eye Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, South Asia**

Khairul founded the Deep Eye Care Foundation, Bangladesh's largest and premier eye hospital and training facility, serving over one million people with a range of eye issues.

Zipporah Ali – 2007 Distance Learning Scholar, MSc Palliative Care, University of Dundee – **Finalist, Social Impact Award, Sub-Saharan Africa**

Zipporah is the Executive Director of Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association and has been instrumental in fostering strong relationships with the Ministry of Health to integrate palliative care into government hospitals.



▲ Meesha Tandon

GET INVOLVED!

You can stay part of the CSC community through events across the Commonwealth, promoting our scholarships and fellowships to potential applicants, and joining our alumni associations and other networks.

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Connect with Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows in the same university or region in the UK

Scotland	Wales and Northern Ireland	South West
North West		South East
North East	Midlands and Oxford	

For full details, visit cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/networks/regional-networks

ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

Meet and network with past, present, and future Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows

Bangladesh	India	Pakistan
Barbados	Jamaica	St Lucia
Belize	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Cameroon	Lesotho	Sri Lanka
Canada	Malawi	Tanzania
Ghana	Malaysia	Trinidad and Tobago
Gibraltar	Mauritius	Uganda
Grenada	Namibia	Zambia
Guyana	Nigeria	

For full details, visit cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/alumni/associations

ROYAL SOCIETY GRANTS

The Royal Society is the independent scientific academy of the UK and the Commonwealth, dedicated to promoting excellence in science. It offers grants for outstanding researchers in the UK and internationally, including the International Exchanges scheme and Newton International Fellowships. To find out more, visit royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants

CALENDAR 2018

August

Pre-departure briefings

Bangladesh, India, Kenya, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia

September

Applications open for Commonwealth PhD, Master's, and Split-site Scholarships

October

International Day for Disaster Reduction alumni event

St Lucia

23 November

CSC Welcome Event for Scholars

London, UK

2019

60th anniversary of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP)



The Commonwealth

The Commonwealth Secretariat is calling for experts to join their Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) Talent Bank. The CFTC provides technical expertise to the public sector by employing professionals on specialist assignments in Commonwealth member countries. More than 350 experts are deployed each year on assignments that range from a few days to two or three years in length.

Assignments typically involve a mix of policy advice and guidance, strategy development and implementation, institutional capacity development, and mentoring and skills training for senior level officials.

For more information on how to register with the CFTC Talent Bank and other jobs offered by the Commonwealth Secretariat, visit thecommonwealth.org/jobs

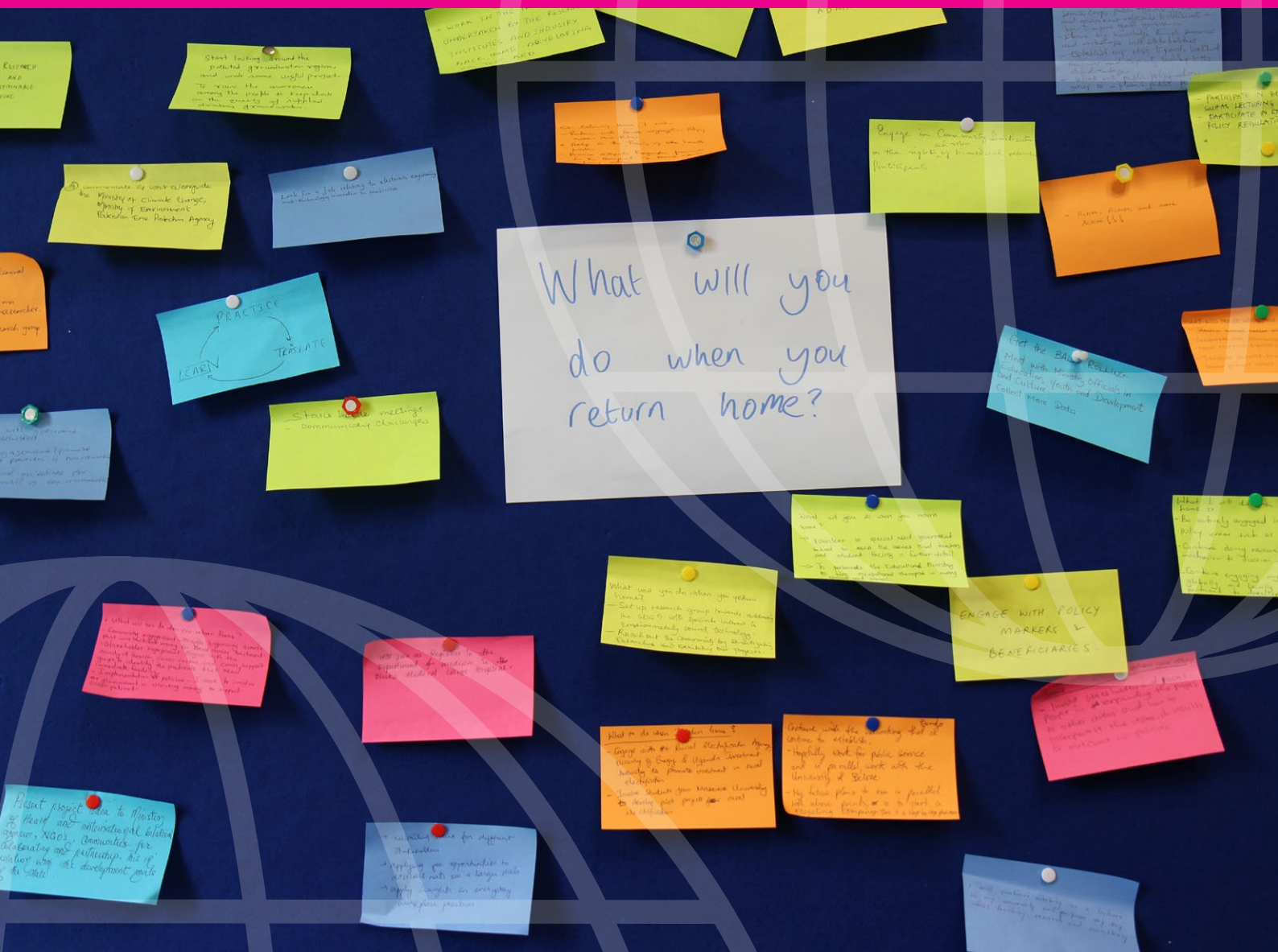
Key programmatic areas of focus for the Commonwealth are currently:

- Democracy
- Public institutions
- Special development
- Youth
- Economic growth and sustainable development
- Small states and vulnerable states

For further details about these activities and more, visit www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

COMMON KNOWLEDGE

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▲ Commonwealth Scholars pledged their commitment to practical action for development impact at a CSC workshop in May 2018 – for more pictures, see page 30



Commonwealth Scholarship
Commission in the UK

Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9HF
United Kingdom
info@cscuk.org.uk
dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

[linkd.in/commonwealthscholarships](https://www.linkedin.com/company/commonwealthscholarships)
twitter.com/commschols
[fb.me/commonwealthscholarships](https://www.facebook.com/commonwealthscholarships)
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