



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair in Community Based
Research and Social Responsibility
in Higher Education

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

2019-2020



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

2. ACTIVITIES OF OUR CHAIR DURING 2019-2020

- Social Responsibility in Higher Education
- Knowledge Democracy
- Community Based Participatory Research and Sustainable Development Goals
- Editorial Advisory Board
- Capacity Building and Training
- Research and Publications

3. OUR PARTNER NETWORKS

4. CHAIR RENEWAL AND PLANS FOR 2021-2024

5. ABOUT THE CO- CHAIRS

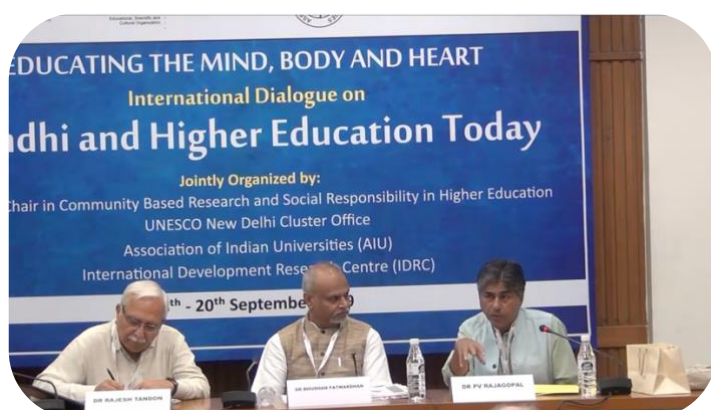
1. INTRODUCTION

One of the principal goals of our UNESCO Chair has been to decolonize approaches to knowledge creation in education systems. Our UNESCO Chair has been equally focused on building research capacity in the field of Community Based Research (CBR) in the Global South and the excluded North. We have accomplished that through South-South and North-South-South partnerships, state-of-the-art research studies and policy advocacy in collaboration with numerous partners and their networks.

The Knowledge for Change (K4C) Consortium for Training in Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) has catalyzed locally relevant approaches to address local issues related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through co-creation of knowledge, by means of collective action by academics and community practitioners in hubs across the world. During this past year we have trained 45 K4C mentors through our Mentor Training Program (MTP), who have come from Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Cuba, Colombia, South Africa, Canada and Malaysia. These mentors form the core of K4C Training Hubs, partnerships between universities and community organizations in each of these countries. The creation of these hubs has had an impact on the research culture, not only in these universities but also at the national level.

Our India Secretariat under the leadership of Dr. Rajesh Tandon has had significant impact on recognition of CBR as a critical element in national higher education policies in India. Working with the University Grants Commission and the Indian Association of Higher Education, our Chair has engaged over 2000 scholars and leaders in how to building capacity in CBR across the Indian Higher Education spectrum. Our work has also had impact at a national level in Canada, Ireland, Italy, South Africa and the UK

2. ACTIVITIES OF OUR CHAIR DURING 2019-2020



The Co-Chairs have actively hosted, participated in and endorsed various events through the year across a range of themes as listed below.

Social Responsibility in Higher Education



Event hosted by the Chair

- "Educating the Mind, Body & Soul": Gandhi Conference, In Collaboration with IDRC, AIU & UNESCO New Delhi Cluster House, 18th-20th September, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/educating-the-mind-body-and-heart-international-dialogue-on-gandhi-and-higher-education-today/>

An international dialogue was jointly organized by UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office, Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in New Delhi, India; from September 18-20, 2019. This international dialogue of two days brought together practitioners, academicians and Gandhian philosophers to explore the relevance, applications and impacts of Mahatma Gandhi's theory and practice on education, learning and knowledge to higher education in India and the world. Drawing from individual and institutional practices, the dialogue was a unique platform to facilitate cross country dialogue on what Gandhi offers to the world of Higher Education. A detailed concept note of the dialogue is available [here](#).

The first leg of the dialogue was organized on September 18th, 2019 and was hosted by Association of Indian Universities at India International Centre, New Delhi. The dialogue was primarily going to be a policy roundtable on Making Higher Education Relevant to Society by drawing lessons from Gandhi's life and ideals. A detailed agenda of the day is attached [here](#). The last leg of this important dialogue was hosted by

UNESCO New Delhi Cluster office on September 20th, 2019. This dialogue highlighted national and international perspectives of Gandhi and Higher Education and hosted speakers from diverse fields, backgrounds and countries of talk about Gandhi and his relevance to Higher Education. Detailed Agenda can be accessed [here](#).

Video links can be found [here](#)

Find E-Book [here](#)

Key Note Address

- Institutional Social Responsibilities of Higher Education - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Co-hosted with UGC, 31st January, 2019
<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/02/01/dialogue-on-institutional-social-responsibility-of-higher-education-institutions-january-31-2019-ugc-new-delhi/>
- “Towards a Socially Responsible Civic University: Balancing the Global and the Local”- Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Bristol University, 30th May, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/public-lecture-at-bristol-university/>

Talks/Presentations

- "Higher Education, Youth Engagement and Social Justice: Emerging Lessons" - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Northumbria University, 4th June 2019
<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/07/15/talk-on-higher-education-in-new-castle-england-june-2019/>

Knowledge Democracy

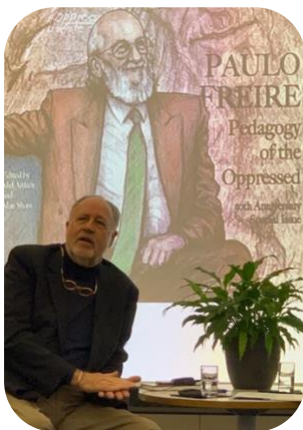


Key Note Address

- “Inequality in Global Distribution and Production of Knowledge” - Dr. Budd Hall, Association of Commonwealth Universities, London, 12th February, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/global-inequalities-in-knowledge-distribution-and-production-implications-for-higher-education/>

- "TEFCE Consultation with the UNESCO Chair on Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education" - Dr. Budd Hall, Paris, 2nd March, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/tefce-consultation-with-the-unesco-chair-for-community-based-research-and-social-responsibility-in-higher-education/>
- "Decolonizing Knowledge " - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, 20th April, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/stories-of-change-2018-19-april-20th-2019-azim-premji-university/>
- Guest Speaker at International conference on United Nations Academic Impact (UNIA) - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Chandigarh University, 18th-19th November, 2019
<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/12/26/unai-10th-anniversary-international-conference-chandigarh-university-november-18-19-2019/>
- Summit on Canada's Global Leadership, 5th December 2019 - Dr. Budd Hall and Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Ottawa, Canada
<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/12/05/summit-on-canadas-global-leadership-november-28-2019-ottawa/>
- "Anikethana": 20th Anniversary of Centre for Social Action - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Christ University, Bengaluru, 9th December- 10th December, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/christ-universitys-social-action-20th-anniversary-december-9-2019/>

Talks/ Presentations



- Presentation on "Épistémicides et reconstruction des savoirs et épistémologies du monde endogène/autochtone d'Afrique et d'Amérique" & "La connaissance, la

communauté et les objectifs de développement durable de l'ONU" - Dr. Budd Hall, Laval University, 29th January, 2019

<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/01/29/budds-visit-to-laval-university-quebec-city-quebec/>

- Talk on Paulo Freire on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Pedagogy of Oppressed: Special Issue of CONCEPT - Dr. Budd Hall, University of Huddersfield, 14th & 15th February, 2019

<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/02/15/surf-on-paulino-reflections-and-stories-about-paulo-freire-by-dr-budd-hall/>

- "Building Knowledge Societies" - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Association of Commonwealth Universities, 11th February, 2020

<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2020/02/13/building-knowledge-societies/>

Community Based Research and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Key Note Address

- "Training on Community Engagement" - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Mahatma Gandhi National Council Rural Education (MGNCRE), Hyderabad, 22nd-25th April, 2019

<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2019/04/27/mgncre-workshop-hyderabad/>

- "Innovative Social Engagement through Service Learning" & "Transforming Towards Sustainable Development: Integrating Effectiveness and Justice Considerations" - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, 2nd International Conference on SDGs GUNi (Barcelona), 5th & 6th March, 2020

<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/international-conference-on-sustainable-development-goals-higher-education-science-take-action/>

- "Knowledge for Change: Transforming Universities and Addressing the UN SDGs" - Dr. Budd Hall and Dr. Rajesh Tandon, University of Victoria, Canada, 6th March, 2019

<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/knowledge-for-change-transforming-universities-and-addressing-the-un-sdgs/>

Talks/ Presentations

- Role of Universities in Envisioning Participatory Smart Cities in the Global South University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, - Dr. Rajesh Tandon, 29th May, 2019
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/events/role-of-universities-in-envisioning-participatory-smart-cities-in-the-global-south/>
- The 2nd Annual Meeting of the UNESCO Chairs in India was hosted by the Academy of Engineering & Educational Research, MIT in Pune on 9-10th December, 2019, which Dr. Tandon participated in.
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/the-2nd-annual-meeting-of-the-unesco-chairs-in-india/>
- Workshop on Community-Based Participatory Research and Arts-based Methods - Dr. Budd Hall, Limerick Univeristy, 11th February, 2020
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/launch-of-the-limerick-k4c-hub-feb-12-2020/>

Editorial Advisory Board

Our Co-Chairs have been part of a range of editorial and advisory boards, as mentioned below:-

- International Modern Perspectives on Academia and Community Today (Advisory Board) - Dr. Budd Hall
- McGill Journal of Education (Editorial Board) - Dr. Budd Hall
- Curricular Reforms and Educational Institutions Social Responsibility under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) (Member of Subject Expert group) – Dr. Rajesh Tandon
- Gateways: Journal of Community Engaged Research (Advisory Board) – Dr. Budd Hall
- Interface: a Journal for and about Social Movements (Editorial Board) – Dr. Budd Hall
- Canadian Journal of University Continuing Education (Editorial Board) – Dr. Budd Hall
- Journal of the Canadian Society of the Study of Adult Education (Editorial Committee) – Dr. Budd Hall
- International Journal on Action Research (Editorial Board) – Dr. Budd Hall

Capacity Building And Training

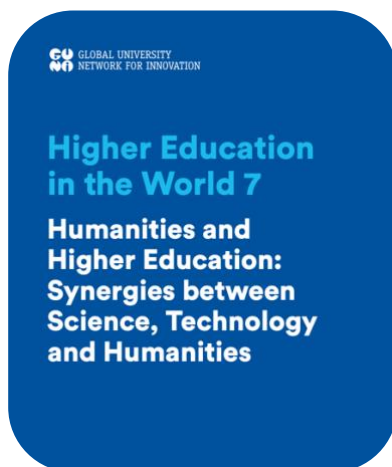


The Co-Chairs have contributed to short term training programmes in India, Ireland, Colombia, Cuba, Malaysia, Canada, Spain and the UK. These short term training programmes have reached 2000 participants. Two cohorts were trained under the Mentor Training Program during 2019-2020, as mentioned:-

- 3rd Cohort (April, 2019) - Dr. Budd Hall & Dr. Tandon acted as the Convenors
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/mentor-training-programme/>
- 4th Cohort (31st October –12th November, 2019) - Dr. Budd Hall & Dr. Tandon acted as the Facilitators
<https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/mentor-training-programme/>

Other K4C developments include a Consortium Meeting of K4C Hubs (October, 2019), launch of Limerick Hub (12th February, 2020) and establishment of the first UK Hub for the 5th Cohort of MTP.

Research and Publications



Knowledge Democracy and Epistemic Injustice: Reflections on A Conversation

Budd Hall, Baptiste Godrie and Isabel Heck

Abstract

The focus of the article is on how knowledge is created, who creates knowledge, how is knowledge co-constructed, whose knowledge is excluded and how is knowledge being used to challenge inequalities and strengthen social movement capacity? This article grew from a fascinating conversation that the three of us had in Montreal in September of 2019. We decided to share our stories about knowledge and justice with a wider audience in part as a way for us to reflect further on the meaning of our initial conversation, but also to invite others into the discussion. The three of us are Baptiste Godrie works in a research centre (CREMIS) affiliated with Quebec's health care and social services system, Isabel Heck with the anti-poverty organization Parole d'excluEs, both affiliated to universities, and Budd Hall from the university of Victoria and the Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community-Based research and social responsibility in higher education.

Introduction

Discourses of knowledge democracy (Hall and Tandon, 2017), knowledge equity (Chan 2009, 2018), epistemic inequalities (Godrie and Dos Santos, 2017; Godrie, 2019a), cognitive justice (Pron, 2017), decolonization of knowledge (Santos, 2014) and cognitive imperialism related to Indigenous knowledge in North America (Battiste, 2011) are at the centre of contemporary re-examinations about knowledge. How is knowledge created?, who creates knowledge?, how is knowledge co-constructed?, whose knowledge is excluded and how is knowledge being used to challenge inequalities and strengthen social movement capacity?

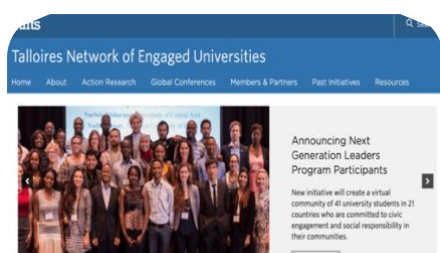
This article is based on a conversation amongst three persons, two from Montreal, Isabel Heck from Parole d'excluEs, Baptiste Godrie with CREMIS. Both of these organisations are community-university research partnerships. Budd Hall is the Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research, a partnership between the University of Victoria and Participatory Research in Asia based in New Delhi, India. All of us work within a knowledge democracy or an epistemic justice framework. We are sharing our diverse and similar understandings of knowledge democracy and epistemic justice and discuss the implications for practices of participatory research. Our conversation was fascinating as we listened to each other's stories

The Co-Chairs have served on the Advisory Committees of several European Commission funded research projects designed to strengthen the theory and practice of community based research including InSPIRES, based in Barcelona with IsGlobal, EnRRICH, at Queens University Belfast. We are part of two new EC research bids, ALTER, based at the University of Sassari in Italy and UNITING, An Erasmus Bid from IS Global in Barcelona. The Chair has been granted a fund by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council in Canada for a 3-year research project on "Bridging Knowledge Cultures: The Knowledge for Change Consortium on Community Based Research". It involves research exchanges with universities in Indonesia, Colombia, India, East Africa and Canada.

Publications of the Co-Chairs during 2019-2020 include:-

- “Disciplines, Professions and SDGs: Challenges in Higher Education in India”, Dr. Rajesh Tandon & Pooja Pandey, *7th World Report on Higher Education* (GUNi)
https://unescochair-cbrsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/guni_publication_implementing_the_2030_agenda_at_higher_education.pdf
- “Knowledge Democracy: Pathways to Sustainable Futures, Learning to Become”, Dr. Rajesh Tandon & Dr. Budd Hall, UNESCO Futures of Education Report
<http://unescochair-cbrsr.org/index.php/2020/02/25/knowledge-democracy-opening-our-doors-to-all-knowledge-systems/>
- Hall, B and Rajesh Tandon “From Action Research to Knowledge Democracy Cartagena 1977-2017” (2019) in *Revista Colombiano Sociologia* V 4 (11) 227-236
http://www.scielo.org.co/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0120-159X2018000100227#fn5
- Hall, Budd L and Rajesh Tandon “Knowledge Democracy for Planetary Survival” in *Humanist Futures: Perspectives from UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks on the futures of education*. Paris, UNESCO. (2020)
- Budd Hall and Rajesh Tandon (eds) with Francesca Antongiovanni, Kaustuv K. Bandyopadhyay, Stefano Chessa, Mariantonietta Cocco, Marta Congiu, Romina Deriu, Valentina Ghibellini, D. B. Lortan, S. M. Maistry, Alberto Merler, Crystal Tremblay, Andrea Vargiu, Sarah Marie Wiebe, Madhura Yadav “Special Chapter-Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Higher Education” in *GUNi Higher Education in the World 7*, Barcelona: GUNi (2019) pp 466-503
<http://www.guninetwork.org/report/higher-education-world-7>
- Knowledge Democracy and Epistemic In/Justice: Reflections on A Conversation, Budd Hall, Baptiste Godrie and Isabel Heck, 2020 in *Canadian Journal of Action Research*
https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/3-2020_CJAR_KD_and_EJ_w_GodrieHeck.pdf

3. OUR PARTNER NETWORKS



There has been active collaboration with the UNESCO Chair Networks in Canada and India spearheaded by our Co-Chairs. Our partner network has expanded to include the following:-

Association of Indian Universities (AIU)

AIU aims to emerge as a dynamic service and advisory apex organization in India by undertaking such initiatives and programmes which could strengthen and popularize Indian higher education as leading edge system in the world and promote greater national and international collaboration in Higher Education, Research and Extension, Sports, Youth and Cultural Activities.

<https://www.aiu.ac.in/>

PASCAL International Observatory

PASCAL International Observatory is a global alliance of researchers, policy analysts, decision makers and locally engaged practitioners from government, higher education, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the private sector. It is organised around university centres in Europe (University of Glasgow), Africa (University of Johannesburg) and Australasia (RMIT), each responsible for its activities in that geographical region. Collectively PASCAL provides an observatory role through interpreting emerging approaches to city and regional development and helps mobilise this knowledge as a basis for policy action.

<http://pascalobservatory.org/about/introduction>

Talloires Network of Engaged Universities

The Talloires Network of Engaged Universities connects universities from around the world to build a global movement of civically engaged higher education institutions. We advocate for the sustainable expansion of university-community collaborations to identify and address societal challenges, and we recognize and promote the most promising practices from our members and others in the field of higher education. We strive to correct a historical imbalance by increasing the visibility in particular of innovative civic engagement activities ongoing in the Global South.

<https://talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu/what-we-do/>

Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI)

GUNI is one of the world leading think tanks on higher education policy and management. An international network that currently gathers 250 members from 80 countries, including higher education institutions, UNESCO Chairs and research centres, it acts as a reference institution in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in higher education.

<http://www.guninetwork.org/about-guni-0>

Living Knowledge, The International Science Shop Network

Living Knowledge is the network of (persons or organisations involved in) Science Shops and similar organisations active in public engagement and involvement of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Research & Innovation (R&I), and those who support those activities.

<https://www.livingknowledge.org/science-shops/about-science-shops/living-knowledge-basic-concept/>

Asia-Pacific University - Community Engagement Network (APUCEN)

APUCEN is a regional network of academic institutions of higher learning concerned with promoting the culture of university-community engagement in a proactive, inclusive, holistic and participatory way APUCEN is motivated by the belief that institutions of higher learning and the community can collaborate to generate ideas on how to improve the quality of life of the society in the Asia Pacific region.

<https://apucen.usm.my/index.php/en/about-apucen/introduction>

Promoting, Interrogating and Mobilising Adult Learning and Education (PIMA)

PIMA is incorporated in Victoria, Australia, as Friends of PASCAL International Association. It is an expanding global network of diverse individual adult and lifelong learning educators, activists, and scholars. It grew out of PASCAL.

<https://pimamembers.wixsite.com/network>

The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)

ACU is an international organisation dedicated to building a better world through higher education. It help to advance knowledge, promote understanding, broaden minds, and improve lives.

<https://www.acu.ac.uk/about-us/about-the-acu/>

Responsible Research and Innovation Networked Globally (RRING)

RRING is a coalition that has activism at its core. It seeks to make research and innovation systems everywhere more responsible, inclusive, efficient and responsive as an integral part of society and economy.

<https://rring.eu/>

International Association of Universities (IAU)

Founded in 1950, under the auspices of UNESCO, IAU is the leading global association of higher education institutions and organisations from around the world. IAU brings together its Members from more than 130 countries for reflection and action on common priorities.

<https://www.iau-aiu.net/Vision-Mission>

Comitê de Entidades no Combate à Fome e pela Vida (COEP), Social Mobilization Network in Brazil

COEP, was created in 1993 in the scope of the great national mobilization against poverty led by the sociologist Herbert de Souza - Betinho with the participation of 33 organizations. The objective was to bring together companies to join efforts in articulating and implementing actions aimed at combating hunger and misery. Throughout its 23 years of existence, COEP has grown, diversified, incorporated new members and broadened its scope of action, consolidating itself as a National Social Mobilization Network, formed by a Network of Communities, Network of Organizations and Network of People.

<http://coepbrasil.org.br/quem-somos/>

Centre for Community-Based Research (CCBR), Ontario, Canada

Since 1982, the Centre for Community Based Research (CCBR) has strengthened communities through research. CCBR is a Canadian forerunner in conducting and promoting community-based research.

<https://www.communitybasedresearch.ca/who-we-are>

Centro Boliviano de Estudios Multidisciplinarios (CEBEM)

The Cebem (Bolivian Center for Multidisciplinary Studies) is a non profit organization based in La Paz (Bolivia) dedicated to research and teaching at postgraduate level in the field of social sciences, as a center private and autonomous

<https://cebem.org/>

FICCI Higher Education Committee

Durban University of Technology

<https://www.dut.ac.za/>

Grant McEwan University

<https://www.macewan.ca/wcm/index.htm>

Gulu University

<https://gu.ac.ug/>

Lingnan University in Hong Kong

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/>

Manipal University, Jaipur

https://manipaljaipur.in/?utm_source=Brannia&utm_medium=adwords&utm_campaign=MUJDYNAMIC&gclid=CjwKCAjwhYOFBhBkEiwASF3KGdB2MpOzFnrkIVqxdRrnpa7gYabDaG1GmE4CQ_RqTS8-2j_4m5xxRoCNi8QAvD_BwE

Mzumbe University

<https://site.mzumbe.ac.tz/>

Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University

www.prsu.ac.in

Sunan Ampel State Islamic University, Surabaya

<https://www.4icu.org/reviews/universities-english/14988.html>

Royal Roads University

<https://www.royalroads.ca/>

The Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University

<https://coady.stfx.ca/>

The University of British Columbia

<https://www.ubc.ca/>

University of Toronto, Canada

<https://www.utoronto.ca/>

University of Los Andes

<https://uniandes.edu.co/en>

University of Sassari

<https://en.uniss.it/>

University of Limerick

<https://www.ul.ie/>

University Sains Islam, Malaysia

<https://www.usim.edu.my/>

University of Science, Malaysia

<https://www.usm.my/index.php>

University Grants Commission, India

<https://www.ugc.ac.in/>

University of Havana, Cuba

<http://www.uh.cu/>

The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Tanzania

<https://nm-aist.ac.tz/>

University of the Free State, South Africa

<https://www.ufs.ac.za/>

4. CHAIR RENEWAL AND PLANS FOR 2021-2024

With the renewal of our Chair for its third term from 2020-2024 being granted, Dr. Tandon and Dr. Hall envisage the following plans for the next 4 years:-

1. Support for institutionalizing and strengthening our already existing knowledge for change research training hubs – We have 15 hubs in 12 countries to date
2. Extend training of mentors through our on-line and face to face Mentor Training Programme – we plan on training 120 more mentors over the coming 4 years with a focus on Africa, Latin America and South East Asia
3. Leadership training for taking on responsibility of the MTP by the end of 4 years
4. Focus on national policy development to deepen the impact of this work in each of the countries where we currently have hubs.
5. Providing evidence-based best practices of the role of CBPR in the attainment of the UN SDGs
6. A publishing and outreach strategy on Contemporary Perspectives on Social Responsibility and Higher Education linked to the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education
7. Development of a Knowledge Platform for sharing of case studies and training materials in CBPR
8. Continuing collaboration with GUNi, The Talloires Network, Association of Commonwealth Universities, International Association of Universities and others.

5. ABOUT THE CO- CHAIRS



Dr. Budd Hall is a Professor Emeritus with the School of Public Administration, University of Victoria, Canada and Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education. His research interests include Community-Based Participatory Research, social responsibility of higher education, knowledge democracy, social movement learning and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In 2019, Dr. Hall received the David H. Turpin Gold Medal for Career Achievement in Research.



Dr. Rajesh Tandon is an internationally acclaimed leader and practitioner of participatory research and development. He is Founder-President of Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), a global centre for participatory research & training since 1982. He is also the Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education. A pioneer of participatory research, he has given new meaning to academic research by redefining the relationship between the researcher and the researched. Dr. Tandon has served on numerous expert committees of Government of India, UGC, UN, Commonwealth & World Bank. In 2015, the Indian Adult Education Association (IAEA) awarded Dr Tandon the Nehru Literacy Award.