



UGPN Conference 2023: Universities as Anchor Institutions: Local Solutions, Global Impact

Closing Plenary

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Dean International, University of Surrey

UGPN: >10 years of collaboration



Established in 2011 with three university members spanning three continents:

- University of Surrey
- Universidade de São Paulo
- North Carolina State University

UGPN was designed as a close-knit network which would be impactful, agile and able to deliver on the founding mission:

• to develop sustainable world-class research, education and knowledge transfer through an active international network of selected Universities collaborating in research, learning and teaching to benefit global society

In 2023, post-pandemic the University of Wollongong have reviewed their priorities and will cease to be a member at the end of the current term (April 2024). However, the Network continues to evolve with plans to expand into three more regions: Europe, South Asia and East Asia





2016



2023

Vision, Mission and Values



Vision: Global partnership for social impact.

Mission: We collaborate internationally on world-class research, education and knowledge exchange, to benefit and sustain people, planet, prosperity, and peace.

Values:

- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Ambition
- Relevance
- Excellence

UGPN has been effective for the members as a platform for achieving shared goals around internationalisation and impact

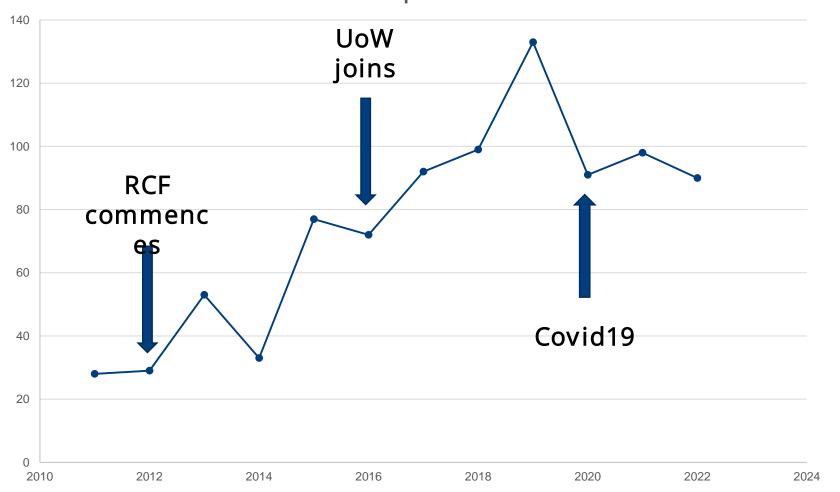
Our renewed vision, mission and values bring our commitment right up to date and focus our activity towards societal impact

While there are many larger networks of loosely-affiliated universities, UGPN is unique in that it is purposefully small and agile. We support each other and deliver impactful collaborative activity which benefits all partners.

Research Outputs: No. Co-publications (2011-2022) (circa 1000!)









87 Projects



27 Trilaterals

8 Quadrilaterals



\$2,440,000 USD invested

Collaborative Education initiatives



Dual PhDs Programmes

UGPN dual PhD programmes offer unique opportunities for students as well as strengthening research collaborations between UGPN partners.

Surrey-Wollongong Dual PhD has provided full scholarships with 8 students funded by the programme on a wide range of projects.

Surrey-USP Dual PhD is currently being finalised and is expected to be launched this year.

UGPN Academy

The UGPN Academy runs on a yearly basis and develops the UGPN partnership into the lives of students. The Academy fosters a nurturing environment for students to collaborate on projects together. Students select a United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal and explore, in their groups, how their universities develop this goal. The Academy gives students the opportunity to explore the lives of other students in different locations and a platform to participate in a global community.

"Our community allowed students to develop important global skills at a time when many of our students were confined to their homes.

Students learned to communicate with a variety of people, forming meaningful relationships with peers and faculty members across the network."



Student and Staff Mobility: Current and Future WGPN **Plans**



Bilateral exchange agreements

have supported hundreds of undergraduate and postgraduate students students to engage with work or study placements across the network.

Summer School opportunities, such as the 'Brazilian Business & Culture' UGPN joint summer school initiative hosted by University of São Paulo.

Staff mobility is supported through various schemes including the UGPN Research Collaboration Fund.



UGPN Executive Group Review



- 1. RCF: Feedback and improved campaign
- 2. Reflections on Research: Future research collaboration opportunities
- 3. New Membership
- 4. UGPN Academy
- 5. UGPN Conference 2024, University of Surrey



Thank yous!

