

EDINBURGH GLOBAL

REGIONAL STRATEGY PLAN LATIN AMERICA



LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

CONTEXT, TRENDS & FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Latin America is a vast and complex region characterised by growing cities, business and education, and vibrant cultural practices, and at the same time, by political, economic and social instability that affects the region in multifaceted ways. Understanding the regional context requires stressing that although the challenges may be shared across Latin American cities and countries, the solutions and processes are extremely rooted in local contexts, socio-political histories and institutions. Given this background, the University of Edinburgh aims to provide a framework for generating and facilitating research, knowledge exchange, and teaching opportunities through two key vehicles; first,

from within Latin America through the Office of the Americas and our existing research relationships in the continent, and second from the University of Edinburgh through the Latin America Executive Group and the Centre for Contemporary Latin American Studies.

Although the University of Edinburgh has a long-standing and successful engagement working with public, private and community sectors in Latin America, since 2013 it has made a clear commitment to longer-term, strategic engagement with the region, through the creation of the Office of the Americas, followed by the appointment of an International Dean for Latin America and the creation of a Latin American Executive Group. This approach has enabled us to strengthen existing and develop new relationships with Latin American universities, research organisations, funding bodies, businesses, and NGOs. The Centre for Contemporary Latin American

Studies, supported by Santander Bank funding, is closely aligned with these strategic priorities and aims to enhance knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer activities, through hosting a number of research and networking events such as the Latin American Forum, the Latin American Cultural Colloquium and the Latin American Symposium of Politics and International Relations.

These events together with a number of other activities and exchange programmes constitute opportunities to showcase our expertise, as well as to better understand the Latin American context and provide us with the tools to develop teaching and research programmes, that are anchored in these collaborations and that are able to best suit the needs of the region. It is also significant to note that after decades of inward-looking higher-education institutions (and government) in Latin America, these are now becoming more interested in sharing skills with other places, especially other Southern countries, with similar challenges. In this context, the University of Edinburgh with its long-standing links to the Global South through decades of outreach, research and teaching,

has very attractive assets for partnership.

STUDENT RECRUITMENT, FOCAL COUNTRIES, OPPORTUNITIES, APPROACH, NOMINAL AIMS

Across Latin America and within focal countries, we must work very closely to our alumni community, ensuring data is accurate and updated regularly, alumni are in communication with our International Office and with the Office of the Americas, through which we can disseminate events and initiatives. The Director of the Santiago Office and myself have proposed the organisation of an Advisory Board with members of the University's alumni community in Latin America and with the aim of meeting twice a year.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS OVER THE COMING 2-3 YEARS (UNIVERSITIES, INDUSTRY PARTNERS, FOUNDATIONS, ALUMNI COMMUNITIES)

The University of Edinburgh is establishing links with Universities, key research centres, funding bodies, government agencies, non-governmental organizations as well as with business and industry with the overall aim of establishing a critical mass of knowledge. These activities are creating opportunities for partnerships with important institutions across Latin American countries. These links are being translated into research, teaching and business

opportunities, as they generate stronger relationships when leading to research funding and teaching programme development.

Together, the Executive Group for Latin America, the Office of the Americas, and the Centre for Contemporary Latin American Studies, in collaboration with the International Office, the Global Academies and our Alumni network, function as facilitators for emerging opportunities in the region and ensure our research and teaching collaborations are mutually beneficial and generate positive outcomes.

To support this aim, we have identified countries where we have developed the above links at a larger scale, such as with Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Mexico, and nations where our partnership development is under way, such as with Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Uruguay. We also have established links with many other Latin American countries including Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Cuba, among others. Moreover, research, knowledge exchange and capacity building has been rooted in a variety of themes, such as: medicine and public health (e.g. bio-ethics, palliative care); social studies (e.g. indig-

enous movements, food security in Cuba, urban marginality in Colombia, indigenous media in Nicaragua, religious practice in Brazil); development (e.g. governance, social movements in Colombia); politics (power relations, international relations); financial systems in Brazil or Colombia); urban studies (e.g. innovative city building strategies in Colombia); cultural studies (e.g. literature, history, film); environment and ecology. To this aim, we believe our strategic approach should be inclusive and holistic and we will continue fostering relationships and research development across the above thematic areas.

The partners with whom we have a strong relationship at present, Pontificia Universidad Católica Chile (PUC), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México UNAM (Mexico), Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNAL) and Universidad Sao Paulo (USP) in Brazil. However, the University of Edinburgh has a significant number of partnership agreements across the region, which we expect to continue developing.

TARGETS — 2-YEAR TIME FRAME

Over the next two years we will work on consolidating our position in Latin America and further developing our already established institutional relations with universities, governments and community and business organisations in the region as well as with our alumni networks. Our overall aim is to support our teaching and research communities in order to facilitate the development of Latin American studies at Edinburgh. To achieve this aim, we have the following key targets:

- To continue to support and increase the University of Edinburgh's participation in key international initiatives (such as the UK-Mexico Itinerary Chair, the Clover Initiative with PUC in Chile)
- To increase the pool of sponsors beyond those already in partnership (Conicyt, Conacyt, Santander)
- To provide support and fur-

ther engage with our growing communities of alumni across Latin America, for example setting-up an alumni Advisory Board.

- To promote current and developing international research collaboration externally (such as through the Global Challenges Research Fund, Newton Fund, British Council, ESRC Impact Accelerator Account), as well as internally, through the Global Innovation Fund, the Principal Teaching Award Scheme, and CCLAS kick-start research funding.
- To continue to attract the brightest students from across Latin America, maintaining and increasing whenever possible our rising intake at both the UG and PG levels, thus serving the region and increasing our alumni and international community in Edinburgh.
- To build on our existing presence in Latin America to forge collaborations with industry, for instance in the areas of energy, sustainability and ur-

ban development and medical ethics.

- To develop and establish a taught postgraduate programme in Latin American Studies
- To continue supporting avenues for staff and student mobility through initiatives such as summer schools, Erasmus Plus, Go Abroad and joint degree programmes.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The Edinburgh Global objectives are grouped into three key areas. These themes align with the University's Strategic Plan and Vision 2025 ambition, aiming to ensure a positive impact in the world.

The three themes also structure specific aims, targets and strategies within the Regional Strategic Plan for Latin America. The themes are:

GLOBAL EXCHANGE

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

GLOBAL EXCHANGE

OUR AIMS & TARGETS

- 1** *To continue to support and increase the University of Edinburgh's participation in key international initiatives (such as the UK-Mexico Itinerary Chair, the Clover Initiative with PUC in Chile).*

Progress



Mexico

Continued participation in Mexico-UK Itinerary Chair programme.



Chile

Continued participation in Clover Initiative with PUC.



Ecuador

We are working to develop research and scholarship collaborations with Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Urban development and global health are key themes of interest.

Staff Engagement



Mexico

Visit from Professor David Ingram from CSE.

Carlos Soler Montes – will participate on an exchange visit to Universidad de Guadalajara under the



Chile

Visits to our Global Office in Chile:

Professor Hugh MacCann, Robin Wallace, Ian Underwood and Tom Bruce from CSE Luke Bisby, Ronan Bolton y Neil Robertson also CSE.

Professor Robin Wallace has been invited to the meeting for the International Board of the Engineering 2030 project to take place in the North of Chile in March 2017.

2

To build on our existing presence in Latin America to forge collaborations with industry, for instance in the areas of energy, sustainability and urban development and medical ethics.

Progress

- We continue to work in collaboration with the Office of the Americas to promote collaboration on a variety of subject areas. Projects under development include: Research, Teaching and KE with Argentina Ministry of Education (see above); PhD Supervision training (led by Professor Jeremy Bradshaw); Colciencias agreement in Colombia; etc.
- Application for accreditation for consultative status with UN ECOSOC (in collaboration with Edinburgh Global and Global Development Academy) for participating in consultation of compact on migration and on refugees.
refugeesmigrants.un.org

Staff Engagement



Chile

In November 2016 Professor Graeme Laurie, Dr Sarah Chan and Dr Jeni Harden delivered a seminar on Medical Education at Universidad Diego Portales in Chile, launched a book written with colleagues from UDP on reproductive rights (abortion) and had several meetings following up work on Medical ethics and Bioethical topics.

Visits to LATAM (Chile) by Professor David Ingram (CSE), Professor Phillipa Saunders and Professor Andrew Horne (CMVM), Professor Peter Droener (CSE), Professor Jason Love, Carol Morrisson and Mary Healy (CSE). These visits have been to participate in activities or Conferences organised by Chilean Universities (PUC and University of Chile).



Argentina

In November 2016, Professor Graeme Laurie and Dr Sarah Chan attended a workshop in Buenos Aires where the progress of the advisory commission on stem cells and regenerative medicine was presented (on its 10th anniversary). During this trip they also attended a workshop on “Ethics, Security and Privacy in Genomic research in Cancer” at the National Institute of Cancer.

3

To develop and establish a taught postgraduate programme in Latin American Studies. This target is under development.

- 4** *To continue supporting avenues for staff and student mobility through initiatives such as summer schools, Erasmus Plus, Go Abroad and joint degree programmes.*

Progress

- We continue to work in collaboration with Edinburgh Global to support and develop exchange and mobility initiatives with an interest in Latin America.



Ecuador

We are working to develop research and scholarship collaboration with Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Urban development and global health are key themes of interest.



Colombia

Cooperation agreement under development with Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNAL).

Staff Engagement



Argentina

Sarah Chan attended a workshop in Buenos Aires where the progress of the advisory commission on stem cells and regenerative medicine was presented (on its 10th anniversary). During this trip they also attended a workshop on “Ethics, Security and Privacy in Genomic research in Cancer” at the National Institute of Cancer.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

OUR AIMS & TARGETS

- 1** *To increase the pool of sponsors beyond those already in partnership (Conicyt, Conacyt, Santander) working collaborative and understanding priorities.*

Progress



Chile

Chilean Embassy has been our main partner in the development of the programme for this year's Latin American Forum 2017 and focuses on the Pacific Alliance. The Forum was organised by students and included high profile participants such as ambassadors and political representatives from Latin America and the UK. www.latamforumedinburgh.com



Colombia

An agreement between the University of Edinburgh and Colciencias (Colombia) is under negotiation for renewal.

UK FCO – UK government will dedicate £25 million over the next 4-5 years to support projects in the following areas:

- Infrastructure (urban development- especially medium sized cities, landfill problems)
- Rail (re-structuring the rail network)
- Agriculture (expanding agricultural insurance- particularly

developing Colombia's own agricultural databases. Currently Mexican data is used. Capacity training.)

The 'Challenge Fund' is also managed by the Embassy, which is focused on agritech.

Medellín has a programme to reduce emissions, which may be an opportunity for ECCI

South America's most important computing centre is in Mani-sales, and may be interested in working with EPCC.



Argentina

Representatives from the Argentina Embassy have expressed an interest on reaching an agreement for a programme of research, knowledge exchange and education rooted on two priority areas: 'Energy' and 'Sports Science'.



Brazil

Professor Till Backmann invited LATAM students to be part of the AMR DxC Winter School in Edinburgh that will run from 20 to 24 February 2017. Student from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) will take part of the Winter School, she is in Microbiology. This was a full scholarship via Professor Bachmann via GCRF funding scheme.

More Science More Development – Newly revised internationalisation, partnership and collaboration programme in Brazil – Edinburgh to explore opportunities with existing partners.

BE_A_DOC – Collaboration between Coimbra Group and the Coimbra Group of Brazilian Universities. Mobility opportunities for PHD students, researchers and professors from the CG or the CGBU's member Universities.



United Kingdom

Continue to work with Santander Bank on a range of activities

led by CCLAS.

Scoping visit – London – September 2016 Embassies Uruguay, Chile, Mexico, Brazil, Peru; and Universities UK (Participants: Ms Dalinda Perez and Dr Soledad Garcia Ferrari). Follow up Autumn 2017.



Argentina

Collaboration for Edinburgh Festival / Interest on artistic residencies – Meeting with ECA Principal in July/August.



Chile

Meeting with CONYCIT Chile / UUKi – London MAY 2017 – Collaboration and partnerships e.g. Newton Picarte.

Staff Engagement



Mexico

Professor Till Backmann invited LATAM students to be part of the AMR DxC Winter School in Edinburgh that will run from 20 to 24 February 2017. Mexican student from UNAM will participate, he is Microbiology and Parasitology. This was a full scholarship via GCRF funding scheme.

Professor Till Bachmann and professor Sue Welburn are organizing a workshop on Infectious Diseases with UNAM 20-25 November 2017 with Newton Fund and would like to take this opportunity to have a bigger delegation to Mexico City.



Ecuador

Meeting with Pablo Dávila from Ecuador Business Consortium looking into collaboration for research and MSc studies in ‘Sustainability and Energy’.

2

To promote current and developing international research collaboration externally (such as through the Global Challenges Research Fund, Newton Fund, British Council, ESRC Impact Accelerator Account), as well as internally, through the Global Innovation Fund, the Principal Teaching Award Scheme, and CCLAS kick-start research funding.

Progress

- Increasing collaboration with Latin America through new research funding under Global Challenges Research Fund and extended Newton Fund
- Internally - Work with Global Academies – research networking and partnership. E.G. Research networking event on Displacement June 2017
- We continue working in collaboration with CCLAS as this includes a broad range of academic communities within the University with teaching and research links with Latin America. We are re-developing CCLAS website; GIS Platform with key projects and collaboration teams; Kick start- research funding; Latin America Week (February 2017); Cultural Colloquium (March 2017); Political Science Symposium (April 2017)

Staff Engagement

- Newton Fund application by Professor Sue Welburn and UNAM (Mexico) on Infectious diseases (workshop in Mexico). This is following discussions after meeting UNAM in November 2015 during the Dual Year of Relationships UK-MEX. Awaiting call results in Feb 2017.

GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

OUR AIMS & TARGETS

1

To provide support and further engage with our growing communities of alumni across Latin America, for example setting-up an alumni Advisory Board.

Progress

- In collaboration with the Office of the Americas we continue to develop strategies involving and engaging with alumni in order to maximise our relationship – Alumni Ambassadors



Mexico

Alumni from Mexico have started making introductions to work more collaboratively (Animal Welfare (UNAM, Mexico), Sports (Duoc, Chile), Capacity Building in Geosciences (UTEM, Chile), Veterinary Science (St Kitts)).

Two alumni gatherings were hosted by Director Office of the Americas in Mexico City and Monterrey in November 2016.



Ecuador

Alumni gatherings were hosted by Head of IORD in October/ November 2016.



Chile

First regional meeting – 18th May (Chair Dalinda Perez).

Launch of the Alumni Club via an evening reception hosted by University of Edinburgh (Professor Jeremy Bradshaw and Director Office of the Americas).

- 2** *To continue to attract the brightest students from across Latin America, maintaining and increasing whenever possible our rising intake at both the UG and PG levels, thus serving the region and increasing our alumni and international community in Edinburgh.*

Progress

- Our students community from Latin America has been fully engaged with the activities planned for Latin America Week and continue engaging with a number of regular events.



Chile

The University of Edinburgh had a stand at the British Council Education UK Fair in Santiago and at the School Fair at Nido de Aguilas School in Santiago in November 2016



Ecuador

The University of Edinburgh had a stand at the UKTI GREAT Exhibitions in Guayaquil, Cuenca and Quito in October 2016. This recruitment activity also included recruitment activity in international schools in Quito.

The University of Edinburgh had a virtual presence at the Feria de Universidades, Virtual Fair which reached students in Guayaquil in January 2017.



Mexico

The University of Edinburgh had a stand at Europosgrados Fair in Mexico City and Monterrey in November 2016.



Edinburgh Global - Latin America Region

International Dean: Dr Soledad Garcia-Ferrari (s.garcia@ed.ac.uk)