1. Overview of GCID activity

- GCID affiliates, mainly based in the Boyd Orr Centre for Population and Ecosystem Health, were awarded the prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education for their work addressing the spread of infectious diseases, particularly rabies and malaria, with work being mainly undertaken in East Africa.

- There are currently 81 active research grants and contracts on international development and poverty reduction issues held by GCID affiliates, with a value of just over £18.4 million, an increasing number of which are interdisciplinary in nature.

- During the year, 19 new research awards were made, amounting to almost £3.8 million.

- To commemorate the 200th anniversary in 2013 of the birth of Dr David Livingstone, an alumnus of the University of Glasgow, the GCID David Livingstone Memorial Scholarship was established, and the first recipient, Daniel Fussy from Tanzania, commenced PhD work in education studies in January 2014.

- Four GCID Scholarship holders are currently registered for PhD studies at the University, with a further one due to start in October 2014, or shortly thereafter. Of the eight scholars so far awarded a GCID Scholarship, four have now successfully completed their studies, and all four have returned to their home countries (Zambia, Pakistan, Tanzania and Botswana) to continue their careers and to contribute to poverty reduction in their respective countries.

- The Lecture Series continues to be an important core activity for GCID as an important means of fostering interdisciplinary contacts and conversations across the University. During the year, a total of 9 lectures was held, attracting audiences from 45 to 120, depending on the topic (see Section 3 below).

- The number of GCID affiliates now numbers 338, which includes 131 Research and Teaching staff and students within the University of Glasgow, and 207 people external to the University.

- GCID affiliates continue to be spread across all four Colleges of the University, most of whom are actively engaged in research and/or learning in international development and poverty reduction activities.

- Communications, both within and beyond GCID, have been actively maintained through the publication of 6 electronic Bulletins during the year which contain research programme calls and information on relevant conferences and meetings (see Section 6),
as well as regular email postings to GCID affiliates on relevant matters such as external seminars/conferences and upcoming research grant calls.

- GCID has continued to promote its engagement with the international development community beyond the University, including with Scottish-based NGOs, the International Development Department of the Scottish Government, and the Department for International Development, both in London and East Kilbride (see Section 5).

- The Chair of GCID continues to be a member of the DFID Research Advisory Group, which has the remit of providing advice through DFID’s Research and Evidence Division on the shape and direction of DFID’s research plans and priorities.

2. Research co-ordination
During 2013-14, new research income to fund international development and poverty reduction research across the University amounted to £3.8 million, bringing the University’s current research portfolio to a sum of £18.4 million. This is currently funding 81 research projects in sub-Saharan Africa, India and Pakistan, and examples of this research have involved research in crop improvement; rabies prevention and management; more effective drug development for the control and treatment of trypanosomiasis; biomonitoring of river quality; the strategic control of foot and mouth disease; the ecology and social determinants of bacterial zoonoses; ecological determinants of African malaria vector behaviour; evaluation of disaster rehabilitation programmes; geopolitics, knowledge and citizenship; better understandings of malaria parasites; and market creation and agricultural growth. This research has been carried out in a number of countries, almost all of it in partnership with in-country universities and research institutes, mainly in Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, South Africa, Malawi, Pakistan and India as the main partner countries.

A major achievement during the year has been the award of the prestigious Queen’s Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education to GCID affiliates, mainly based in the Boyd Orr Centre for Population and Ecosystem Health. The group was given this award for its work addressing the spread of infectious diseases, particularly rabies and malaria, with work being mainly undertaken in East Africa. A key feature of this work is its genuinely interdisciplinary nature, something which GCID helped to facilitate by initially bringing together researchers from very different disciplinary backgrounds to generate new and genuinely collaborative approaches to poverty reduction in sub-Saharan Africa.

GCID organised its work around the following interdisciplinary research themes, representing the main areas in poverty reduction in which the University has strength:
- Human and animal health;
- Renewable energy;
- Development economics;
- Education and lifelong learning;
- Environmental management and development;
- Food security.

We have continued our consolidation of these themes, particularly with our international partners, where we are now fully engaged with a number of our partner institutions, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Notable examples of developing international teams during the year include:
• University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Makerere University and the University of Nairobi (Kenya) in renewable energy (this included a submission to the Royal Society Capacity Building in Africa programme during the year);
• Stellenbosch University (South Africa) in food security;
• North West University (South Africa), the University of Dar es Salaam and the University of Cape Town (South Africa) in environmental sciences, especially water quality;
• University of Botswana, University of Rwanda, Makerere University in human health;
• Nelson Mandela Institute, Arusha, Tanzania National Parks and the Tanzania Wildlife Institute in animal health.

In terms of impact, scale and activity, it has become clear that our interests and expertise in human and animal health have become dominant, followed by renewable energy, although this does not in any way diminish our activity and contribution in the other four areas. It is planned to strengthen the human and animal health area further, building on its success as an area of research excellence.

3. GCID Lecture/Seminar Series
GCID has completed another successful series of lectures during the year, with attendances ranging from 45 to 120, but typically between 50 and 60. As in previous years, GCID has been keen to develop its partnerships with international development organisations external to the University, including DFID and Scottish-based NGOs.

The lecture series was as follows:
10 October 2013, Joanna Reid (Head of DFID, Somalia). What it takes to change the world.

15 October 2013, Professor Tim Benton (UK Champion for Global Food Security). Food security to 2050: issues for the global south.

5 November 2013, Dr Francisca Mutapi (University of Edinburgh). GRiPP – Getting research into policy and practice.

4 December 2013, Dr Paul Lynch (University of Birmingham). Emerging priorities from early childhood development and education training for families with children who have visual impairment in Malawi.

14 January 2014, Dr Steven Davis (Academics without Borders Canada). Academics without borders.


6 February 2014, Clive Mather (Chairman, Tearfund). The global financial crisis: can it be turned to the advantage of the world’s poor? (Cancelled due to industrial action).

3 March 2014, Professor Joseph Ndung’u (KEMRI, Kenya). Building partnerships that deliver tools for diseases of poverty.
4. GCID Scholarship Schemes
The GCID Scholarship scheme had four postgraduate students undertaking PhD work during the year, working in the Colleges of Science and Engineering, and Social Sciences. In October 2014, we look forward to welcoming a further PhD postgraduate from Botswana to join them under the Eleanor Emery Scholarship Scheme, a scheme which has been made possible by the generous legacy bequeathed by Eleanor Emery, a graduate of the University, who left money in her will to fund Botswana postgraduate students to study at the University of Glasgow. He will be undertaking his studies in the College of Science and Engineering.

The quality of all 8 students who have so far received GCID scholarships has been exceptional, and so it is unfortunate, but perhaps understandable, that the current global financial crisis has reduced donations and legacies to the University to support the scheme, especially as this scheme makes a major contribution to capacity strengthening in some of the poorest countries in the world. GCID will, nonetheless, continue to work closely with the Development and Alumni Office to explore funding opportunities for future GCID Scholarships. Happily, during the year, there was success with the establishment of the GCID David Livingstone Memorial Scholarship.

5. External initiatives and activities
GCID has continued to expand its policy of engagement during the year with the wider international development community beyond the University of Glasgow, and has strengthened linkages with organisations and individuals both within Scotland and beyond. Such activities include:

- Links with the International Development Department of the Scottish Government have strengthened further, particularly in contributing fully to debates shaping Scotland’s potential contribution to the post-2015 development agenda as the successor to the Millennium Development Goals. GCID members have had separate business meetings with the Minister, Mr Humza Yousaf, at various times throughout the year, as well as with Joanna Keating, the Head of International Development at the Scottish Government. GCID was also successful in recruiting a PhD student to a Scottish Government-ESRC scholarship on aid effectiveness.
- GCID has maintained its presence on the DFID Research Advisory Group, which has the remit of providing advice through DFID’s Research and Evidence Division on the shape and direction of DFID’s research plans and priorities.
- Maintenance of strong links with DFID at Abercrombie House, East Kilbride, with regular discussions taking place between colleagues, as well as regular attendance by interested DFID staff at GCID lecture events.
- Continuing engagement with Scottish-based NGOs and charities, especially in discussions and dialogues on a wide range of shared activities and interests, including the possible shape of international development activities under possible new constitutional arrangements in Scotland. GCID is now a full member of NIDOS (Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland), as well as of the Scotland-Malawi Partnership (SMP).
- Rwanda-Scotland Alliance (RwSA), an organisation set up in December 2009 at a GCID-hosted event in Glasgow, which has the remit of driving and co-ordinating
Scotland’s activities with Rwanda, along similar lines to the Scotland-Malawi Partnership. GCID played a pivotal role through the RwSA in securing the 3-year secondment of Professor Phil Cotton as the first Director of the College of Health Sciences at the University of Rwanda from April 2013.

6. Communication activities
One of GCID’s core activities in the University is to promote and encourage our collaborative and interdisciplinary research endeavour in international development and poverty reduction within the institution and with partners beyond. To support this, the GCID database holds information on each staff member’s research interests in international development, so enabling interdisciplinary teams to be put together in relatively rapid time in response to funding calls. In a more proactive way, a total of 7 electronic Bulletins was produced during the year and these were emailed to the GCID mailing list on a regular basis. These are archived at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/centres/glasgowcentreforinternationaldevelopment/informationforstaff-campuseonly/previousbulletins/. The GCID website itself is available at: www.gla.ac.uk/gcid.

7. Partnerships
As part of the University of Glasgow’s wider internationalisation strategy, the partnerships with Makerere University (Uganda), the University of Dar es Salaam, the University of Dodoma (both Tanzania), the University of Botswana and North-West University (South Africa) continue to be strengthened in support of our collaborative research activity, as highlighted in Section 2 above, and a number of research grant applications were submitted by GCID affiliates which included research colleagues from these partners. During the year, the University of Cape Town became a sixth formal institutional partner for the University of Glasgow. Additional research partnerships are being developed in various forms with the University of South Africa (UNISA), Stellenbosch University, the University of Malawi and the University of KwaZulu Natal. Discussions continue with the University of Johannesburg, elected in 2013 as a new member of Universitas21 (U21).

8. Future ambitions
Over the next year, GCID’s main plans are:
- The further strengthening of our ongoing research in human and animal health in sub-Saharan Africa, building on our outstanding interdisciplinary record in this area, with the aim of becoming a world leader in this area.
- Working even more actively with the Alumni and Development Office to generate greater funding for the academically successful GCID Scholarship scheme.
- To continue to strengthen links with the work of the International Deans for Africa and South Asia in support of the University’s Internationalisation Strategy.
- To build on GCID’s reputation as an informed and influential contributor to policy debates on international development strategies, and as a reliable partner of trust for our research collaborators, by further strengthening our links with external organisations and institutions.
9. Acknowledgements
I would very much like to thank David Wright for all his efforts in support of GCID during the year. I am also grateful to Peter Holmes who continues to serve as Senior Adviser to GCID and to Professor Steve Beaumont, Vice-Principal for Research and Enterprise, who has continued his strong and very welcome support and commitment for GCID and its activities.

John Briggs
Chair, GCID
10 July 2014