



In recent years the MSc in Global Mental Health at the University of Glasgow has had a strong collaboration with the University of Rwanda. The respective universities recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that reflects the strong connection between the two institutions. This is reflected by the fact that Professor Phillip Cotton from the University of Glasgow was appointed Principle of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Rwanda. Our programme director, Dr Ross White visited the University of Rwanda in August 2014 and in June 2015 and is also active in ongoing collaborations there.

The links between Glasgow and Kigali have been strengthened by the initiation of a week-long knowledge exchange events for Global Mental Health - the first of which was delivered in Kigali in June 2015. These exchange events, which are based in the Great Lakes Region of Africa, give students, researchers and clinicians excellent opportunities for international travel, networking with various stakeholders and getting insights into the challenges associated with building capacity for mental health in low-income country settings.

Further information about the summer school can be found here:

[http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/healthwellbeing/news/headline\\_411960\\_en.html](http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/healthwellbeing/news/headline_411960_en.html)

The aim of these knowledge exchange events is to provide rich opportunities to create partnerships for addressing the global inequities in the provision of mental health services is highly appealing.

The collaboration has provided important opportunities for teaching exchange between members of staff from the University of Rwanda and the University of Glasgow. The insights and experiences provided by our colleagues at the University of Rwanda about the challenges facing Mental Health Services and individuals suffering from mental health problems in developing countries have been greatly appreciated by MSc Global Mental Health students. Interaction with the University of Rwanda as part of the MSc Global Mental Health programme offers students a range of opportunities for advancing understanding about the interplay that exists between social, cultural and medical factors in how mental health difficulties are experienced, understood, diagnosed, and treated in a global context.