A Public University’s commitment to produce global citizens of capacity building

Global Outreach Within and Beyond North America

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APLU Commission on International Initiatives
CII Summer Meeting 2016 New Brunswick, New Jersey
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Global Responsibilities, Challenges, and Opportunities in the Developing Global South

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- Mission of the public university
- Rationale for the Congo Basin Institute
- History of the Congo Basin Institute
- Goals for capacity building
- Challenges moving forward
University of California – One Land
Grant University

1 UC President
10 Chancellors

The UC family includes:
- 10 campuses
- More than 220,000 students
- More than 170,000 faculty and staff
- More than 1.5 million living alumni
UCLA Mission: What are strategic goals for a top-ranked public university?

- Academic excellence
- Diversity and social mobility
- Financial security
- Creating innovation!
- Civic engagement to provide public benefit:

Solving the world’s most challenging problems
UCLA Global Initiatives

- Vietnam – Center for Global Mentoring
- Russia – Enhancing University Research & Entrepreneurial Capacity
- Congo Basin Institute
Congo Basin Institute
Built on strength of 2 Institutions

IITA’s infrastructure
- CBI Molecular Genetics Laboratory
- Analytical Laboratory
- Plant tissue culture laboratory and environmental chambers
- Partners – Congo Forest

UCLA’s education & research
- NSF $5M PIRE grant- 3 universities with courses & workforce training; research projects
- 13 bed Residential center for scholars
- Computers for a GIS remote training center
The Congo Basin Institute

**Mission:** To find integrative solutions that conserve the environment and meet the vital needs of the developing world.

- Building a permanent and interdisciplinary center of higher learning and scientific excellence in Central Africa
- Supporting universities from around the world to conduct education programs in Cameroon that are open to local universities to participate
- Generating research that decision makers can use to address sub-Saharan Africa’s interlocking environmental and development challenges.
Building a consortium to carry the progress forward in a united manner

*Invite universities, NGOs, businesses, nonprofits to join the consortium*

Benefits to joining:

- Access to CBI facilities on priority & discounted rate
- Assistance with receiving research & export permits
- Invitations to events
- Access to classes & training
- Participation on an Advisory Council for CBI
- Participation in fundraising activities
- Participation in project-specific working groups
Challenges moving forward

- Universities’ disciplinary structures
- Offering “credit” to all when fundraising
- Political, safety, and ethical challenges to send students
Public universities are a great source of strength and innovation for global capacity building:

- Educate a skilled workforce at home and abroad
- Help secure funding for research & development while teaching grant-making skills
- Develop research agenda and train future researchers at home and abroad while studying the world’s complex problems
- Create state-of-the-art research & education facilities