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ANNUAL REPORT
2016-17

CARA'S WORK – AN OVERVIEW

The pressures of 2017, extreme as they have been, seem all too likely to continue into the coming year. While Syria's needs still predominate, the agonisingly slow recapture of Mosul and the destruction of much of the city are heartrending to those of us who welcomed Iraqi scholars from Mosul in 2004-5 and watched proudly as they returned to rebuild their city and university, only to have their work torn apart by the invading 'ISIS' forces. Will it be too much even for these brave men and women to rebuild Mosul twice?

Do you know who your friends are? Nigusu Worku's excellent account in this Annual Report of his journey from persecution in Ethiopia to a job in the UK reminds us that whether you are dealing with a powerful regime or, as in Syria's case, with an infinitely fragmented and vicious civil war, knowing who you can trust is a luxury. We must always remember that the need for privacy can be very great, while encouraging our Fellows and their families to avoid isolation and take part as far as possible in the life of their host university.

These host universities in the UK and elsewhere have continued to outdo their records for generosity and help of every kind this year, including the volunteer experts who have joined in our Syria Pilot Programme (more details further on in this Report). With an admirable degree of consultation from all participants, training has begun in English for Academic Purposes and Academic and Research Skills, while experts from the UK and Syria are working on introductory reviews of Higher Education there both up to and after the outbreak of war in 2011. They, and we, work in the hope that these will provide valuable baseline documents on which the rebuilding of HE can begin when at last a degree of peace breaks out in Syria.



Mrs Anne Lonsdale CBE, Cara Chair

"I really do not know what to do! For the opposition, I work with the regime and for the regime I belong to the opposition. In fact, I don't belong to any of them. I just happen to love my work as a researcher and lecturer."

Cara Fellow from Syria

Our origins go back to 1933, and the rise of Nazism. William Beveridge and other leading academics and scientists in the UK at that time saw hundreds of their colleagues in Germany being forced out of their jobs in a witch-hunt, and they banded together to create a rescue mission. Their aim was *"the relief of suffering and the defence of learning and science"* – saving the individuals, of course, but also saving, for the good of all, the expertise and knowledge that they carried in their heads, and helping to ensure that it could be put to good use.

Over eighty years later, many academics and scientists around the world are still at grave risk. Those who say and write what they think are often seen as a potential focus of opposition, and so are targeted by repressive regimes or by extremist groups. Peaceful protest alone can be enough to attract persecution, arrest and prison, or even murder. Those who want to survive are forced into self-censorship. Elsewhere, as law and order break down in conflict, academics trying to continue their research or teaching find their students becoming radicalised and dangerously hostile, or just staying away as normal study becomes impossible. Those who work in state-run universities or teaching hospitals may be hunted down and murdered by extremists, as 'state stooges'. Simply getting to and from work can involve a whole catalogue of risks –

"Merton College was approached by Cara about the possibility of hosting a visiting academic from Syria. The College has a history of looking after academics who have had to flee their countries, and the College's Governing Body readily agreed to accept the Syrian academic.

I believe that this placement was extremely beneficial to him in terms of gaining academic experience and skills, in a very different environment to that in his home country. Several other Colleges have now gone on to take in a Cara academic. Cara were excellent partners, and were always there for us with wise advice. This has been a very worthwhile and positive experience."

**Sir Martin Taylor FRS,
Warden, Merton College, Oxford**

arrest, robbery or forced conscription at checkpoints along the route, being kidnapped for ransom, or injury or even death from crossfire or stray shells. Elsewhere, the danger can have very specific roots – an individual may belong to the 'wrong' religion or ethnic group, or be of the 'wrong' sexual orientation in a society where being different risks getting you beaten up, or even killed.

Cara exists to help academics like these. We believe that science and learning have no geographical boundaries; that the pursuit of excellence is international; and that academics around the world form a global community, whose work is essential for the future of our planet. Those who are in immediate danger must be helped, rescued where necessary, and given the opportunity to continue their important work. Those who want to go home when they can should be supported to prepare for that return, so they will be able rebuild their countries' higher education systems better than before. Those who cannot return, because of the continuing dangers, must be helped to build new lives, bringing their fresh perspectives and international experiences to enrich the universities that will host them, in the UK or elsewhere.

Our Fellowship Programme acts as a lifeline to academics at risk, helping them to reach a place of safety where they can continue their work. Most of them are passionate about returning home when the situation allows, but they require support in the meantime to develop their skills and build the networks they will need when that day comes. We help them to identify a host institution, agree all the funding issues, and assist with immigration formalities and with the many travel and arrival arrangements.

“The experience that my wife, family and friends went through to save my life, having to negotiate with war criminals to pay a ransom using our life savings, was just unbearable”

Cara Fellow from Syria

We also support academics who have been forced to flee and have already reached the UK, and who cannot return home in the foreseeable future. Many find it very hard to come to terms with the permanent loss of their old home, job and community, so we help them to re-build their careers here.

In addition, we also run regionally-based **Country Programmes**, to provide effective support to academics who are continuing to work in their country despite threats and risks or who have been forced into exile in the surrounding region. We ran ground-breaking regional programmes for Iraq (2006-2012) and Zimbabwe (2009-2013), and recently launched our regionally-based Syria Programme.

A Fellow's journey – I

“My name is Adel and I am a Medical doctor from Mosul City/Iraq.

Mosul is the second biggest city in Iraq with a multi-ethnic population of around 3 million. There are 2 universities and 7 hospitals.

In 2006 the sectarian war took hold in Iraq. There were 20 suicide bombers, killing 228 in January alone. The crimes against humanity forced me to flee Mosul in 2011 but I returned at the start of 2014 when a shortage of my specialty in Mosul hospitals was putting patients at risk. In June 2014 Dae'sh (IS) occupied Mosul completely and Iraqi military forces fled the city. This led to a tragic breakdown in all health and education services and the kidnapping and murder of hundreds of innocent men, women and children. Many doctors fled Mosul but those of us who remained were forced to work in very bad conditions. The city was out of control and Dae'sh executed anyone who spoke against them. A lot of people were killed for nothing.

I had heard of the great history Cara has for rescuing academics in my situation so I sent an email out of desperation in June 2015 and by December I had been offered a place at a UK institution. Fearing for my family's safety, I embarked upon a terrifying, three-day journey alone and was smuggled into Turkey where I caught a flight to Baghdad but the sectarian violence in Baghdad meant I could not stay there either. Cara paid for a flight to Amman where I applied for my UK Visa and waited for a decision in safety. Cara made all the arrangements for my travel, my Fellowship, my accommodation, and they have now arranged for my family to join me here within two months. It's not an exaggeration to say that Cara have saved the lives of my family and me, saved our future and even our dreams.

My father and brother are still in Mosul and I hope that, when the war is over, I can use the knowledge I'm gaining now to return to my homeland and help to rebuild the healthcare system for future generations.

Cara have 150 men and women like me who need their support but are on a waiting list due to a paucity of resources so, if you are able to give even £10 a month, please help them to help people like you and me.

Thank you.”



The library of the University of Mosul, burned and destroyed during the battle with 'Islamic State' militants, 30 January 2017

2016/17 – ANOTHER YEAR OF CRISES

The conflict in Syria continued to be the major focus of our **Fellowship Programme** in 2016/17, with many Syrian academics urgently needing help to get away from life-threatening danger in places like Aleppo and Homs, to be able to continue their study and research in safety. But we continued to receive appeals for help from Iraq and from many other countries too, notably Turkey, where the confrontation between academics and the government over policy in the Kurdish regions, and the university closures and waves of dismissals which followed the failed coup attempt in July 2016, led to a surge in applications. Other crises, across the Middle East and parts of Africa in particular, also caused many academics to flee. There were crises in Europe too, with the Hungarian Government apparently determined to close down the Central European University in a move which has been widely seen as an attack on academic freedom, and fighting in eastern Ukraine continuing to cause serious disruption to higher education across the country. On average we received 10-20 new enquiries per week in 2016/17, the highest level of need since the 1930s, and are now supporting people from 27 countries.

“I would always thank Cara about its support which not only enabled me to reach my dreams, but also it definitely rescued me and my wife”.

Cara Fellow from Syria

In response to the high level of demand, we built further on our already-close cooperation with UK and other universities, to find additional placements and support for Cara Fellows. Our biggest single asset is our Network of UK universities, established in 2005/06 and now numbering 117 institutions, all of whom are committed to work with us to support academics at risk. As in 2015/16, because of the sharply increased numbers, we asked university partners, wherever possible, not only to offer full waivers of any course or bench fees, but also to provide funding for consumables and accommodation/ living costs as well, and travel costs to the UK. They again rose magnificently to the challenge, offering places, cash and in-kind support for Cara Fellowships in 2016 worth over £4.2 million, up from around £2.5 million in 2015 (2014: £1m; 2013: £0.6m), with a further increase so far in 2017. We have also placed Fellows successfully in Germany, France, Canada,

Australia, Malaysia and the USA, and are in discussion with universities in Hong Kong. 79 UK universities also supported our fundraising efforts in 2016/17 (2015/16: 71), paying £287,500 in voluntary annual subscriptions to support our running costs (2015/16: £268,500). This support is vital – without it, we could not function.

As a result of this support, we were once again able to increase the numbers of academics and family members we are helping. In 2016, we allocated over £918,000 for Fellowship awards (2015: over £608,000). As of July 2017, we were supervising placements for around 270 academics (July 2016, 213; July 2015, 140), with some 350 dependants, so over 600 people in all. Roughly one-third of Cara Fellows are female; we continue to pay particular attention to the dangers facing female academics, many of whom are at risk of sexual violence in conflict zones, and suffer the reality of daily discrimination in patriarchal societies elsewhere.

“I thought education will bring stability for me and my young kids; however, feeling safe is an important factor to enjoy having a life and to follow my ambition. I express an extreme gratitude to Cara and its staff and leaders for the opportunity they provided to me to enhance my skills and develop my research and teaching ability.”

Cara Fellow from Libya

“For promoting the values of enlightenment and freedom through my lectures, I was faced with the possibility of being killed as these values were perceived as a threat by the authority. Cara saved my life and its understanding and compassion gave me hope again ... I have resolved once again to become the academic I aspired to be.”

Cara Fellow from Iraq

In 2016/17 we also continued to roll out our **Syria Programme**, which provides support in the region to academics affected by the Syria crisis. Our first on-the-ground Syria Programme event, a Round Table with potential Research Fellows and a range of international partners and funders, was held in Istanbul in June 2016. We then worked throughout Autumn 2016 to develop our ideas, including in a meeting with UK universities hosted by King's College London, and another with UK national academies and learned societies hosted by the British Academy. Our first Syria Programme workshops were launched in 2017, with much more to come in 2017/18. See below for more detail.

UK Network Universities, 2017

The 117 UK institutions listed below have agreed to work with us, offering fee waivers and often accommodation and financial support for Cara Fellows and their families. Most also contribute a voluntary annual subscription too, to help cover our running costs. We thank them all. Equally, we thank those many members of their staffs, who give so generously of their time, pro bono, to help our Fellows and to support our regional programmes. Our work would be impossible without their understanding and commitment.

Aberdeen | Abertay Dundee | Aston | Bath | Bath Spa | Bedfordshire | Birkbeck | Birmingham | Bournemouth | Bradford | Brighton | Bristol | Brunel | Buckingham | Cambridge | Canterbury Christ Church | Cardiff | Cardiff Metropolitan | Central Lancashire | Central School of Speech & Drama | Chester | Chichester | City University London | City & Guilds of London Art School | Courtauld Institute | Coventry | Cumbria | De Montfort | Dundee | Durham | Edinburgh | Edinburgh Napier | Essex | Exeter | Glasgow | Glasgow Caledonian | Glasgow School of Art | Glyndŵr | Goldsmiths College | Goodenough College | Greenwich | Heriot Watt | Hertfordshire | Heythrop College | Huddersfield | Hull | Imperial College | Institute of Education | Kent | Keele | King's College | Kingston | Lancaster | Leeds | Leeds Beckett | Leeds Trinity | Leicester | Lincoln | Liverpool | Liverpool Hope | Liverpool John Moores | Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine | London | London Business School | London Metropolitan | London School of Economics | London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine | London South Bank | Loughborough | Manchester | Manchester Metropolitan | Middlesex | Newcastle | Newman University Birmingham | Northampton | Nottingham | Nottingham Trent | Open University | Oxford | Oxford Brookes | Plymouth | Portsmouth | Queen Mary | Queen Margaret | Queen's Belfast | Ravensbourne | Reading | Regent's | Roehampton | Royal Holloway | SOAS | Salford | Sheffield | Sheffield Hallam | Southampton | Southampton Solent | South Wales | Staffordshire | Stirling | Strathclyde | St Andrews | Sunderland | Surrey | Sussex | University of the Arts London | University College London | University of East London | Ulster | Warwick | Westminster | West of England | West of Scotland | Winchester | Wolverhampton | Worcester | York | York St John |



**YOU ONLY HAVE TO KILL
ONE ACADEMIC
TO SILENCE HUNDREDS**

Appeal: You Can Help!

All around the world, academics face persecution, imprisonment, violence or even death.

We have already brought hundreds to safety.

But many more are still in danger and need help, urgently, to get away.

But to do more, we need more money. Our small staff are already stretched to the limits; and while many universities are offering fee waivers and other funding support for Cara Fellows, not every university can cover all the costs involved in a Fellowship.

With more money, we could take on the extra staff we need to clear the backlog. £25,000 pa, for example, could cover all the costs of one extra young team member, able to manage 25 cases – save 25 families – at a time.

And we could put more money on the table to make it possible for universities, with many competing priorities and concerns, to continue their generous support for Cara Fellows, in a new and much stronger partnership.

Hundreds more could be saved.

Please go to www.cara.ngo and click on the box, 'Donate Now'; or, to send a cheque, download a donation form at www.cara.ngo/how-to-help/donations.

If you can, please add Gift Aid; it costs you no more, but gives us an extra 25%.

Thank you for your support!



Education Goes On: A new graduate of Benghazi University takes a selfie in front of a ruined building at his university, 27 October 2016

SYRIA PROGRAMME

Drawing on the experience of our earlier Iraq and Zimbabwe Programmes, in 2016 we launched our regionally-based Syria Programme, to provide support to academics affected by the Syria crisis. Most Syrian academics in exile, in Turkey, Lebanon or elsewhere, intend to return to Syria when they can, but for now they urgently need opportunities to work and to continue to grow professionally, through a very difficult time, so they will

be able to help re-build a better system of higher education when they do go back.

With the active participation of a growing number of UK, Turkish and other universities we organised a series of workshops in Turkey in 2017 on 'English for Academic Purposes' and 'Academic Skills Development', to lay the foundations for future research collaborations. The first two Syria Programme Fellows have

The State of Syrian Higher Education: collaborative research with Syrian displaced academics and the University of Cambridge Faculty of Education

"I have known of Cara but this was the first time I have been involved in direct work and it has proved to be challenging academically and personally, as well as very rewarding indeed for myself and my Cambridge colleagues, Dr Joanne Dillabough and Dr Olena Fimyar. The project had two purposes: to build on the capacity of Syrian colleagues in Turkey to undertake qualitative research and to study together the state of Syrian higher education. As part of the project we reviewed the existing evidence, conducted consultations with stakeholders who have current information on the state of Syrian higher education and interviewed the Syrian academics about their recent experience.

What did I learn and feel? I learned of the power of work and that the one thing that each one of these men wanted was to go back to being an academic, be valued for this and have the safety to work uninterrupted. I learned what it is to be a vulnerable academic and to have to hear stories of hardship and indifference, particularly from Europe. We worked hard as a team to undertake rigorous, useful, ethical and important research which should be published soon after September. Syrian academics mostly use quantitative techniques so the aim of the workshops was accomplished when one team member said, 'Now I see the value of qualitative research and I see it is rigorous.'"

Professor Colleen McLaughlin, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

"I got my doctorate in regional planning from Egypt in 2013, and because of the conflict in Syria I could not go back to Aleppo University. Therefore, I decided to come to Turkey in 2014. I felt frustrated and discouraged because I did not have an academic post. I stayed about two years away from the academic environment. This increased my frustration until I started communicating with Cara in 2016. Early in 2017, I had my first meeting with the Cara team in Istanbul. I was very happy because Cara restored my confidence as an academic through several workshops in Istanbul. These workshops gave me the opportunity to meet with a group of Syrian and British academics and work with colleagues at Cambridge University to prepare a study on higher education in Syria. I have improved my level of English, and Cara has secured a teacher to help me learn English through online lessons. I am taking great advantage of these lessons.

The simple financial support provided to me by Cara has had a positive impact on me, my wife and my children in Turkey. I hope in the future that Cara will help me get an academic post or research grant that will help me return to the academic field and improve my English further in the hope of returning to Syria and contributing to post-war rehabilitation projects."

Dr Fateh Shaban, Cara Syria Programme Fellow

already been hosted by UK universities on short-term 'research incubation' visits. We are also working with UK and Syrian academics and others to help establish the true state of Higher Education in Syria before and since 2011, to get a better sense of how exiled Syrian academics can be helped to prepare to return, as they want, when it is safe to do so.

A second phase, to be launched in late 2017, will support a greater number of exiled Syrian academics and maximise the Programme's impact and outcomes. A new research strand will draw on the experience of our Iraq Programme, with two 'open calls' for research proposals of relevance to Syria or to Syrian

refugee communities. This will allow the Programme also to reach beyond Turkey, to Syrian academics in exile in other countries in the region.

We are enormously grateful to the many participating UK and other universities, and individual academics, for their enthusiastic engagement in this Programme, in many cases pro bono. The Open Society Foundations are supporting our Syria Programme, and a substantial private donation has also been received; but much more support is required to do justice to the need and to the full potential of this important project in the years ahead. If you can contribute in any way, please get in touch.

In June 2017, we hosted an event at the Royal Society of Medicine in London, to give many of our friends and supporters an opportunity to meet a large group of Cara Fellows. Over 120 people heard one of our previous beneficiaries, Justice Albie Sachs of South Africa, talk about the help he received from Cara, as an anti-apartheid activist in the 1960s and again in the 1980s; watched a short video featuring two of our present Fellows from Syria; and listened to a panel of five Fellows, from different countries and backgrounds, discussing their experiences in their own countries and in the UK. The video of the two Syrian Fellows is available on our website, under 'News and Events'.

Our annual 'Science and Civilisation' lecture series commemorates the title of the lecture delivered by Albert Einstein at the Royal Albert Hall on 3 October 1933, to raise funds for the 'Refugee Assistance Fund', a grouping consisting of Cara (then known as the Academic Assistance Council, AAC, later the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning, SPSL) and three other charities. The fourth lecture in the series was delivered on 17 October 2016, by Dame Anne Glover FRS, the first Chief Scientific Adviser to the President of the European Commission (2012-2015) and the first Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland (2006-2011). She is currently Vice Principal for External Affairs and Dean for Europe at the University of

Aberdeen. She spoke on the theme, "And then they came for the experts". A recording of her talk, with her slides, is also available on our website under 'News and Events'. The 2017 Lecture will be delivered by Professor Timothy Garton Ash at the Royal Society, on Wednesday 29 November. His theme will be, "Free Speech under Attack". [Please contact Cara for further details if you wish to attend this event.](#)

Media articles about Cara have appeared in various newspapers and magazines in 2016/17, including *The Guardian*, *Chemistry World*, *Research Europe*, *Times Higher Education*, *Nature*, *Professionals in International Education (PIE)*, *Raddington Report*, *Physics World*, *Royal Society of Medicine 'Engage'*, *The Conversation*, *The Jewish Chronicle* and *The London Review of Books*. The AAC/SPSL's early years, in particular the contribution of our redoubtable Assistant Secretary, Esther ('Tess') Simpson, were the subject of a documentary on BBC Radio 4 in May 2017.

A Fellow's journey – 2

"My name is Nigusu Worku and I was a Cara beneficiary in 2013-2015.

I was born and raised in Addis Ababa and worked from 2007-10 as a Graduate Lecturer. As a member of the Amhara ethnic group, I suffered discrimination because of my non-Tigrayan background – the Tigrayan-led Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) have been in power since 1991. In 2005, when I was a member of the editorial committee of the graduation magazine, I was called to the commandant's office and was told that the star representing the EPRDF had been omitted from the magazine. This was seen as a political act. I was arrested and was kept for three months in a shipping container that served as a detention facility. I faced frequent interrogation and torture. On release, I was banned from taking up postgraduate opportunities for three years.

In 2010 I was allowed to travel to India to begin postgraduate study, but soon after arriving I began to receive emails suggesting that my activities were being monitored. The pressure made me ill and I was admitted to hospital for six weeks. I was ordered back to Ethiopia for further treatment, where a nurse warned me that I was due to be arrested. I escaped, and crossed into Sudan. I was desperate and paid smugglers to get me from Sudan to France, where I lived in the 'jungle' in Calais for several months. The smugglers finally managed to get me into the UK, hidden on the back of a lorry. I was awarded refugee status on 5 November 2012.

I heard about Cara and sent them an e-mail on 29 January 2013. Within two months, I received a scholarship confirmation letter to allow me to take my MSc in Embedded System Design at South Wales University. Cara was the first organisation that gave me hope and help. Everything was difficult and dark but Cara gave me the light and strength to see far and face the challenges.

I completed my MSc and am currently working as a Graduate Software Engineer at Snell Advance Media. I now hope to make a contribution to UK society, and have just set up a Direct Debit to contribute to Cara, to help them to help others like me. I'm giving £30 per month but, even if you give £5 per quarter, you can rest assured that you are saving lives, and giving hope to individuals who have lost everything. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

PARTNERSHIPS

Cara works with a range of like-minded international partners, including our two US counterparts, the *Scholars at Risk Network (SAR)* and the *Institute of International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE - SRF)*. In 2016 Cara was re-elected as Vice-Chair of the New York-based *Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack*, working with UNESCO, UNICEF, UNHCR, Save the Children, Human Rights Watch and with our two US partners and others to develop new ways to help protect school pupils, students, teachers, academics and researchers who are at risk as a result of instability and conflict around the world.

GCPEA's most important achievement so far has been its work to prepare and launch what became known as the 'Draft Lucens Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflict'. These were then developed as a political initiative under the leadership of Norway and Argentina into the '**Safe Schools Declaration**', which was opened for endorsement by countries at an international conference held in Oslo on 28 May 2015. So far (July 2017) 68 countries – more than one-third of UN members states and including a clear majority of NATO and EU states – have adopted the Declaration and the accompanying 'Guidelines', thereby committing themselves not to use schools and universities for any

military purpose during armed conflict. This is already making, and will continue to make, a real difference to those caught up in such conflicts. We are working with our GCPEA partners to encourage more countries to sign up in the near future.

With our two US partners and others, we have also prepared new GCPEA 'Principles of State Responsibility to Protect Higher Education from Attack', and an accompanying 'Implementation Guide', which we launched at UNESCO in Paris at two events in 2016. We will continue working with our partners to build support for these Principles.

In 2016/17 we and our US partners also participated again in the *Philipp Schwartz Initiative*, which is coordinated by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The Initiative is supported by the German Foreign Ministry and a number of other German foundations, and makes grants to support at-risk academics at German universities. 56 awards were made in 2017. Philipp Schwartz himself, like Cara's founders, worked in the 1930s to help German academics escape from the Nazi regime; in 1935/36 the headquarters and archive of his organisation were moved from Zurich to London and combined with those of our 1930s forebear, the SPSL.

We are continuing also to develop new partnerships in Europe. In the course of 2016, Cara's Chair spoke twice by invitation in Brussels at events arranged by EU Commissioner Moedas and the European Science Foundation.

We are grateful for the support of the British Council who generously waive fees for Cara Fellows from Syria who need to sit the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) proficiency tests. In 2017 we have also negotiated a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and look forward to expanding our cooperation with them in the years ahead.

In 2017 Cara and the *Sir Hans Krebs Trust* renewed their partnership, which provides 'Sir Hans Krebs Trust / Cara Fellowship' awards at post-graduate and post-doctoral level in the biomedical sciences. The awards commemorate the life and career of the late Sir Hans Krebs, a Nobel Prize winner who was supported by the SPSL in the 1930s when he was forced to leave Nazi Germany, and are funded from the sale in 2015, by his family, of his Nobel Prize medal. The partnership is helping to ensure that future generations of biomedical scientists who are prevented from carrying out research in their own country because of persecution or oppression have the opportunity to continue their important work.

"The violence and risk increased incredibly and became direct to me and to my family after 'ISIS' taking over big parts of Iraq and the militarizing of the community afterward as reaction to this outbreak ... In the middle of all this chaos Cara extended a hand of hope and security for us and proved that we are not alone in our crisis..."

Cara Fellow from Iraq

In February 2017 Cara announced its partnership with Minerva and the launch of the 'Minerva/Cara Fellowship awards', which will support academics at risk to study for post-graduate qualifications or to carry out post-doctoral research in the UK. The first two beneficiaries, Syrian academics who are studying for PhDs, have been selected. Cara warmly welcomes Minerva's initiative, and looks forward to working with them in the future.

We are grateful also to Goodenough College and International Student House, who both provide generous scholarships to cover accommodation costs for Cara Fellows in London.

Additional partnerships are being developed, and will be announced soon.

Riot police stand at the entrance of Ankara University during a protest against the dismissal of academics following a post-coup emergency decree, 10 February 2017

ANKARA
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

CEBECİ
KAMPUSU



A Fellow's journey – 3

“It seemed like a normal week day until my colleagues at the Faculty of Communication at my university picked me up to go to work, and one of them told me that we were being denounced in the newspapers for signing a petition called, “We will not be a party to this crime”. The petition called for a peaceful solution to the conflict in Turkey’s Kurdish area and for stopping human rights abuses in the region. I thought that this news was probably just the beginning of a nightmare. Soon I realised my forecasts were true.

Since the petition was launched in mid-January 2016, Turkish scholars have been subject to heavy pressures and constraints. A lot of academics were detained, four were arrested and held for about two months, judicial and administrative investigations were launched into all of us. Some academics had to leave their cities and universities because of threats. I had some life threats via social media. In spite of all threats, the number of the signers of the petition increased from 1128 to 2212.

After the declaration of the petition the rectorship of my university launched administrative investigations into the signers of the petition. In addition, and contrary to all traditional practices and even legislation, the university administration cancelled the contracts of a lot of academicians, including mine. I lost my job on 14 April 2016. I contacted Cara, and Cara decided to help me. Now I’m a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science, thanks to Cara. Ten days after I arrived in London, I was listed in a decree law under Turkey’s state of emergency. So I lost my job a second time, ironically.

I’m really grateful to Cara because I’m here in London at the right time and I can continue my academic work in one of the best universities in the world. From the beginning to now, the Cara team has been so interested in my case and they are always so helpful. In the present situation, the support of non-governmental organisations, international press organisations and international universities is more important than ever. We have to act with solidarity. The support of Cara and other organisations is precious for academics who have had experiences like mine, because there are still so many academics who are trying to continue their lives under threatening conditions.”

Zeynep, a Cara Fellow from Turkey

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE IN 2016

Our Financial Year is the calendar year. As in 2015, in 2016 many universities continued to pay the funding they were providing for the Cara Fellows they were hosting through us, as restricted donations, rather than paying Fellows direct. This contributed to a significant further increase in our income and expenditure in 2016, which seems likely to continue in coming years. We also received a number of substantial unrestricted and restricted donations, and two further payments, totalling £130,000, from the legacy left by the late Dr Gabrielle Ellinger. The balance of that bequest is expected later in 2017.

On 28 June 2016 Phillips in London offered for sale, as part of their *20th Century & Contemporary Art Day Sale*, the sculpture *MEME CCXCVIII* by Antony Gormley, creator of the *Angel of the North*, *Field for the British Isles*, and *Quantum*

Cloud. We allocated the proceeds of the sale, £70,000, to cover the costs of Fellowships for academics at risk.

As a result, our final income in 2016 totalled £1,535,409, a further significant increase (2015: £1,094,241). Expenditure and commitments on awards and programme and project work for the year amounted to £1,386,273 (2015: £1,087,700), and Governance Costs were £28,605 (2015: £37,147). The total net movement of funds was a surplus of £118,653 (2015: a deficit of £35,006). On a cash basis, there was a surplus of £176,258 (2015: £203,740).

We are enormously grateful to our many benefactors; we could not work on without their help. Some donors prefer to remain anonymous, but of those who are happy to be acknowledged in public, the main donors are shown opposite.

“Working with Cara to support a Syrian academic, first securing a Fellowship and then working to help him transition into a full-time academic position, has been an eye-opening experience. To know that I have played a small part, not only in the career of a wonderful academic colleague, but in the safety and security of a young family is wonderful; but to understand the dedication, perseverance and effort of the Cara team behind the scenes is inspirational. We all exist with the idea of a strong global ‘academic community’; Cara gives meaning to that idea.”

Dr Jonathan Bridge, Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography,
Department of the Natural and Built Environment, Sheffield Hallam University



Photo/Kate Robertson

We offer them all our heartfelt thanks.

- David and Claudia Harding Foundation
- Dowager Countess Eleanor Peel Trust
- Ernest Hecht Charitable Foundation
- Freedom House
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Harbour Foundation
- John Innes Centre
- Minerva
- Murdoch Trust
- National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB)
- Neuberger Family
- Open Society Institute Budapest Foundation (OSI)
- Redevco Foundation
- Sigrid Rausing Trust
- Sir Hans Krebs Trust
- Sir Joseph Hotung Charitable Settlement
- Society for Applied Microbiology
- Worshipful Company of World Traders

(above) **Cara Syria Programme**: Teaching Fellow Kathryn Redpath (Edinburgh University) runs a session at a Programme workshop in Istanbul

We would like to acknowledge also the valuable support given to our Syria Programme by Columbia Global Centers in Istanbul and by Elsevier.

We are grateful also to many individual members of university staff, for their humanity, their generosity and the practical support they have given and continue to give Cara Fellows across the country; and to the many other people, with no direct affiliation to academia, who nonetheless understand the importance of our work, and have opened their homes to Cara Fellows and donated to the cause.

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st December 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income		
Donations and legacies	1,510,753	1,078,260
Charitable activities	–	102
Investments	7,674	6,705
Realised gains / (losses) on investments	16,983	9,174
Total income	1,535,409	1,094,241
Expenditure		
Raising funds	1,879	2,765
Charitable activities:		
Grants payable	977,109	670,243
Programme and project work	409,164	417,457
Governance	28,605	37,147
Total expenditure	1,416,756	1,127,612
Net income (expenditure) for the year	118,653	(33,371)

All of the operations undertaken by the company during the current and preceding years are continuing operations.

The retained net profit for the year based on historical cost is £102,162 (2015 – net loss £8,922).

Auditors' Opinion: We confirm that the information given in the summary income and expenditure account and the balance sheet shown on pages 22 to 23 is consistent with the annual accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2016 which have been audited by ourselves.

Colin Brailey FCA Senior statutory auditor, 7 June 2017

For and on behalf of Cocks, Vellacott & Hill Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants, Unit 3 Dock Offices, Surrey Quays Road, London SE16 2XU

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	2,365	7,966
Investments	277,322	255,164
Total fixed assets	279,687	263,130
Current assets		
Debtors	30,407	6,289
Cash at bank and in hand	606,074	429,816
Total current assets	636,481	436,105
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(550,791)	(452,511)
Net current assets (liabilities)	85,690	(16,406)
Total assets less current liabilities	365,377	246,724
The funds of the charity:		
Restricted Income Funds	69,433	20,000
Unrestricted Funds	271,284	214,693
Revaluation reserve	24,660	12,031
Total charity funds	365,377	246,724

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 7th June 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Anne Lonsdale (Chair)

David Ure (Hon Treasurer)

Company Registration No: 00641687 | Charity Registration No: 207471

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

President

Professor Sir Malcolm Grant CBE

Patrons

Greg Dyke

Rabbi Baroness Neuberger DBE

The Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve CH CBE FBA

Professor Lord Patel of Bradford OBE

Jon Snow

Dr Rowan Williams (*The Rt Revd and Rt Hon The Lord Williams of Oystermouth PC*)

Trustees in 2016-17

Chair: Mrs Anne Lonsdale CBE, *Former President, New Hall, Cambridge, and Cambridge University Pro- and Vice-Chancellor*

Hon Secretary: Professor Michael Worton CBE, *Former Vice-Provost (International), UCL*

Hon Treasurer: Mr David Ure, *Company Director, formerly Chair of the Reuters Foundation*

Professor Sir Robert Boyd, *Former Principal of St George's Hospital Medical School*

Professor Paul Broda, *Former Professor of Applied Molecular Biology, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology*

Ms Nicola Dandridge CBE *Chief Executive, Universities UK*

Professor Penelope Gardner-Chloros, *Professor of Sociolinguistics & Language Contact, Birkbeck, University of London*

Mr Mark Hammond, *Former Chief Executive, Equality and Human Rights Commission*

Professor Sir Deian Hopkin, *President of the National Library of Wales; former University Vice-Chancellor*

Ms Lilia Jolibois, *Non-executive Director and Member of the Audit Committee of Future Group S.A., France, and Board Director of the INSEAD Foundation*

Professor Alan McCarthy, *Professor of Microbiology, University of Liverpool*

Ms Tabitha Nice, *Chief Adjuster – Specialty, Sompo Canopus*

Professor John Naughton, *Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge*

Dr Joanna Newman MBE, *Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities*

Mr Nigel Petrie, *Chairman of AD Group, a UK technology business*

Professor Robert Pynsent, *Emeritus Professor of Czech and Slovak Literature, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, UCL*

Mr Stephan Roman CMG, *Former Director for South Asia, the British Council*

The Revd Dr Nicholas Sagovsky, *Honorary Professorial Fellow at Roehampton University, Visiting Professor at Liverpool Hope University*

Professor Paul Weindling, *Research Professor, History of Medicine, Oxford Brookes University*

Staff

Executive Director: Stephen Wordsworth CMG LVO

Deputy Executive Director, Fellowship Programme Manager: **Ryan Mundy**

Senior Fellowship Programme Officer: **Zeid Al Bayaty**

Fellowship Programme Officer: **Andrew Mahon**

Fellowship Programme Officer: **Sana Ibrahim**

Fellowship Programme Officer: **Riman Salim**

Fellowship Programme Assistant: **Laura Puiggali**

Head of Development: **Martin Thornton**

Middle East Adviser: **Kate Robertson**

We are grateful also to former Fellowship Programme Assistants **Olivia Iannelli** and **Alex Firth**, who moved on in the course of 2016/17.

Volunteers and Interns

Cara could not function without the support of the many volunteers and interns who have so generously given their time to work with Cara over the last year:

Harbinda Hanspal | Charlotte Sharman | Alexandra Clifton | Aoise Keogan Nooshabadi | Katie Budd | Khaled El-Jamal | Claire Stewart | Laura Puiggali | Demi Morjaria | Elizabeth Dykstra-McCarthy | Melod Rikweda | Razan Shamlakh | Alexia Vercruysse | Micol Polacco | Jibreel Mohamed | Fayeza Kassam | Lucia Simms | Tessa Polovina | Minna Mohammed | Huma Ansari | Marija Šapokaite

Data Protection

In view of the sensitivity of the personal information that Cara processes, Cara is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), in accordance with The Data Protection Act 1998. Cara's registration may be viewed at:

<https://ico.org.uk/ESDWebPages/DoSearch?reg=522738>

The remains of the University of Mosul,
destroyed during a battle with 'IS' militants,
10 April 2017

REUTERS/Marko Djurica

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Charity registered in England and Wales No 207471

Company registered in England and Wales No 641687

Middle East Office (since 2008): 101 Uhod Street, Amman, Jordan.