

Press Release

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Walk With Web and collaborators expands partnerships with Sierra Leone Public Archives and Central University in Sierra Leone, opens avenues for internships.

CEO of Walk With Web Inc. (WWW) Kartikay Chadha, along with Directors Professor Paul Lovejoy of York University, Professor Suzanne Schwarz of University of Worcester and Professor Katrina Keefer of Trent University have successfully completed a research trip to Freetown, Sierra Leone between 17th and 26th February, 2023.

The research visit, sponsored by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and The British Library in the UK, focused on building a partnership with the Sierra Leone Public Archives (SLPA) and Central University in Freetown. In consecutive meetings and workshops with the Senior Government Archivist, Albert Moore and his staff at SLPA, WWW discussed the on-going website development for the archive and reached to an agreement on how this will translate in generating revenue for the archive to sustain future development and infrastructure.

Supported by the British Endangered Archive grant by The British Library, Prof Lovejoy and Prof Schwarz have been working with SLPA at Fourah Bay College in Freetown for the past decade digitizing historical manuscripts on the history of Freetown and Sierra Leone, especially during the nineteenth century related to history of British Crown Colony of Sierra Leone from 1808-1901. These includes sources of experiences from former slaves and their descendants and official policies and systems imposed on its inhabitants by the British Crown Colony. Finally, the upcoming website created by WWW will showcase audio and visual documentation including biographical accounts, newspapers articles, manuscripts and more, with open source for researchers to have easy access to these valuable resources.

Furthermore, Prof. Katrina Keefer, in presence of five graduate students from Trent University including Rachel Taunton, Hayden Wice, Joseph Burton, Wacera Muriuki and Zachary Raimundo, signed an MOU between Trent University and Central University on the 23rd of February 2023. Chancellor Muckson Sesay and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Bob Conteh of the Central University were present at the meeting. Additionally, in presence of WWW CEO, they discussed finalizing an agreement to offer internship opportunities to students at Central University in digital technologies and create two-way training opportunities for not only students, but also faculty and staff members of collaborating partners.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcJfhHehH4c> -
Central University Partners with Trent University in Canada

Walk With Web Inc. (www.walkwithweb.org) is an internationally operating Canadian corporation working to support the development and sustainability of social sciences and humanities research.

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