UNIVERSITY OF Global Health EQUITY

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Research Day 2026

Research for Equity in a Changing World: **Locally Grounded, Globally Relevant**

DATE: November *20, 2026,* **VENUE:** Butaro *Campus* **HOURS:** 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

The shape of the day

The programme follows one line of inquiry: how research that starts from local priorities and lived realities can produce lasting change in health systems, policy and practice.



Programme

All times are Central Africa Time (CAT). Posters remain on display throughout the day.

TIME	SESSION	FORMAT / CONTENT
8:00 – 9:00 am	NETWORKING **Registration & Poster Showcase Opens**	Registration and poster installation. The showcase includes completed research, innovation, community-engaged projects and selected work in progress.
9:00 – 9:20 am	CEREMONY **Opening Ceremony**	Welcome from UGHE and Research Day leadership; introduction of the keynote speaker.
9:20 – 9:40 am	PLENARY **Opening Keynote**	*From Local Evidence to Lasting Impact: Rethinking How Research Advances Health Equity* **Dr. Joe Rhatigan**
9:40 – 10:00 am	PLENARY **Partner Address: Creating Connections**	Two key UGHE partners on the current state of their partnership and future collaboration, and on how partnership helps locally generated evidence translate into lasting impact. **Prof. Carole Mitnick** — Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA (PFC) **Bonnie Weiss** — Co-Founder & President, CRI Foundation

TIME	SESSION	FORMAT / CONTENT
10:00 – 10:45 am	PLENARY **Moderated Panel Discussion**	*What Does It Take to Move Locally Generated Evidence into Sustainable Policy and Practice?* See panel details below.
10:45 – 11:15 am	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 am – 12:45 pm	SCIENTIFIC SESSION **Parallel Oral Presentations**	Eighteen selected abstracts across three parallel tracks; about 10 minutes per talk plus 5 minutes for discussion. **Track 1:** Resilient Health Systems, Health Professions Education & Community Health **Track 2:** Climate Change, One Health & Emerging/Enduring Health Challenges **Track 3:** Health Innovation, Evidence & Impact
12:45 – 1:30 pm	LUNCH	
1:30 – 3:00 pm	SCIENTIFIC SESSION **Poster Showcase**	A protected poster period with no competing sessions. Presenters stand at their displays for discussion with researchers, faculty, policymakers and implementers, and for structured judging. *Includes a Student Research Showcase: Ntare Louisenlund School students present posters developed with UGHE faculty mentors.*
3:00 – 3:30 pm	COFFEE BREAK	
3:30 – 4:00 pm	PLENARY **Research-to-Action Closing Dialogue**	Rapporteurs give a brief synthesis across the three tracks, followed by plenary discussion of what should change in policy, practice, implementation and future research.
4:00 – 4:45 pm	CEREMONY **Awards & Recognition**	Recognition of outstanding oral, poster, student and early-career contributions.
4:45 – 5:00 pm	CEREMONY **Closing Remarks**	Thanks to partners, reviewers, presenters and organisers; key takeaways and next steps.
5:00 pm onwards	NETWORKING **Networking Reception**	Informal networking, photographs and partner engagement.

Plenary & panel

OPENING KEYNOTE · 9:20 AM

From Local Evidence to Lasting Impact: Rethinking How Research Advances Health Equity

Dr. Joe Rhatigan

How can research that begins with local priorities and lived realities generate durable improvements in health systems, programmes, policy and practice?

MODERATED PANEL · 10:00 AM

What Does It Take to Move Locally Generated Evidence into Sustainable Policy and Practice?

> *"If we already generate substantial research in Africa, why does so much of it still fail to change systems, policy and practice?"*

Panelists open with brief responses, then take questions and interventions from the floor.

Iliza Ndatinya Grace	Moderator
Dr. Eric Remera	Rwanda Biomedical Centre
Dr. Mara Franke	PIH / Inshuti Mu Buzima
Dr. Hinda Ruton	Africa Quantitative Sciences
Jean Eric Niyitanga	Emerging researcher
Community health worker/Community Representative	TBD