

Research Team Members

Anne Thurston, Project Director

Dr Thurston founded the Trust in 1989. Both as an academic and as a programme director, she has extensive experience of working with many different governments to provide practical solutions for strengthening record-keeping systems. Between 1970 and 1980, Dr Thurston worked in Kenya, where she conducted research and was employed by the Government of Kenya in the National Archives before she joined the staff of the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies at University College London in 1980. There she developed the Masters' in Records and Archives Management (International) and was a Reader in International Records Studies. She served as a member of the UK Lord Chancellor's Advisory Council on Public Records between 1994 and 2000. Dr Thurston was awarded an OBE for services to public administration in Africa in the (UK) Millennium New Year's Honours List, and she received a lifetime achievement award from the UK Records Management Society in 2006. She directs a wide range of Trust projects in many parts of the world, including research, educational and consultancy projects.

Michael Hoyle, Project Manager

Michael Hoyle is the Project Manager and Lead Researcher for the research project. A New Zealand born Australian based in Seattle, Michael has a Masters degree in Information Management and Systems from Monash University in Australia. Prior to moving to Seattle in 2005, he was the Group Manager, Government Recordkeeping at Archives New Zealand. He has also worked in various information management and other roles in several government agencies in Australasia, including ten years at Archives New Zealand and six years at the National Archives of Australia. Michael has been a council member of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand (1996 to 1999) and served the Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers (ACARM) as Deputy Chair (2000 to 2002) and as Chair (2002 to 2004). He also served the Pacific Branch of the International Council on Archives (PARBICA) as Secretary General (2002 to 2003) and President (2003 to 2004).

Pino Akotia, Research Officer

Dr Akotia has researched and published widely on records and information management. His particular area of expertise is financial records. He has recently completed a period as Head of the Department of Information Studies at the University of Ghana, where he continues to serve as a senior lecturer in records management. Dr Akotia has worked with the Trust on a wide range of projects, particularly in Africa and in the Caribbean, that have involved strengthening records management systems and building capacity. He played a leading role in education and training programmes developed by the Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers and by the Trust in the 1990s. Recently, he has been the Lead Consultant for rebuilding personnel records systems in relation to payroll control in Sierra Leone. He is presently a member of the Trust's Research Team.

Andrew Griffin, Research Officer

A senior records, archives and information manager with 30 years' UK and international experience, Mr Griffin works for the Trust on a range of different projects. He has a wide range of international experience, having worked as an archivist/records manager for the India Office Library and Records, the University of Papua New Guinea, the British Library, the Cayman Islands National Archive and Barts Hospital. He joined the Trust in 1997 and was appointed Deputy Director in 2002. He has managed and contributed to a range of large projects in The Gambia, Ghana, Tanzania, Belize and the East African Community as well as many short-term projects. He is directly involved in the Trust's international capacity building programmes, and as a manager and a consultant, he is actively involved in designing and implementing practical solutions to records and information management problems, particularly in relation to financial, human resource, hospital and legal records.

Justus Wamukoya, Research Officer

Dr Wamukoya has researched and published widely on issues relating to records and information management. As a senior member of staff of the National Archives Kenya and as Head of the Department of Archives and Records Management in the Faculty of Information Sciences at Moi University (Kenya), he gained wide experience of records management issues. He was Senior Lecturer at the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of Botswana between 2003 and 2007, when he returned to the Moi University. He has published widely on records and information management. Dr Wamukoya has been involved in a numerous Trust projects in Africa, including work in strengthening records management systems in Tanzania and building records management capacity in Africa. He helped to develop the Trust's Records Management Capacity Assessment System (RMCAS) software tool. He plays an active role in the development of the East and Southern African Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives.

Anthony Hurford, Project Coordinator

Anthony Hurford coordinates the research project. He has a degree in Environmental Science, which focused on international development, and as part of his studies, he carried out field research in Nepal. He has had a diverse career since completing his degree, which has included spending a total of three years in Switzerland and more recently a total of four years in Indonesia in a variety of positions. Prior to joining the Trust in December 2006, he spent a year co-coordinating the fieldwork of a medical NGO in Sumatra, implementing a capacity building programme in the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. During this time he continued to work voluntarily as Project Field Manager for the Orangutan Health Project, also in Sumatra, which he first joined in August 2003 as a Project Assistant.