

United Nations Association
of New York

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Our 2010 Excellence: Energy, Innovation and Commitment

PAULA RICE JACKSON | PRESIDENT

Our year has been punctuated by excellent programs as well as challenges, which we have addressed with energy, innovation and commitment.



One exciting development, the film series "Screening the Issues," established itself as an important channel for highlighting issues before the UN and stimulating dialogue. Its format introduces people responsible for the films at the screenings, which encourages a stimulating post-screening discussion. These events have been very productive sources of new members and we plan to continue this form of outreach into next year.

This fall, our Worldview Institute

semesters continue into a sixth season. Worldview has proved to be an extremely effective bridge between the UN and the business community. Its value proposition is that it brings together constituencies that would not normally have an opportunity to discuss global issues in an informal setting.

Also, our monthly programs have generated great interest this year, spanned issues from Mexican drug cartels and human trafficking to the Green Revolution in Iran.

The annual UN Day Dinner is scheduled this year on October 21st at the Union Club in Manhattan. Our focus once again is on the UN Millennium Development Goals and we will honor individuals and organizations that have promoted

exemplary activities in support of one or more of the MDG initiatives. This year has been a challenging one for both ourselves and our national organization. We look forward to your support at this dinner event, our main fundraising activity of the year. We have great plans for the fall and look forward to continuing our mission to engage and inform you about the issues before the United Nations.

UNA-NY Largest Chapter in US!

The United Nations Association of New York was recognized as the largest chapter in the United States at the UNA-USA Annual Meeting in Washington DC this year in June. We have achieved a 10% increase in membership since January 2009.

We are very pleased to receive this award for membership growth and look forward to even more expansion of our membership base.



UNATODAY

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK
SPRING | SUMMER 2010

Student Alliances Start-up to Support UN Millennium Development Goals

LEILA ZUBI | BOARD DIRECTOR



This September, UN member states will reaffirm their commitment to achieving the

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The historic initiative will bring together governments, private sector leaders, international organizations, financial institutions, donors and civil society groups to continue their unified global efforts to accomplish the eight MDGs.

Students and teachers or faculty advisors are invited to join this very important, historic global campaign by establishing a **UNA-NY Student Alliance** at your school.

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An Exceptionally Productive Year

ANN NICOL | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We have had an exceptionally productive year despite the challenging economic times. The main factors in our progress this year continue to be our programs, our effectiveness in engaging our membership, and the enthusiasm and commitment of our hard-working Board of Directors.

Our Worldview Institute programs have developed into a much anticipated and fully-subscribed facet of our outreach. This year's fall semester which begins on November 3 promises, from the quality of our invited faculty, to be a compelling series of seminars covering global topics of interest to the international managers among our membership.

This year we have also regained our position as the largest local UNA chapter in the nation. It is exciting to see how enthusiastically and effectively our message is being received by our membership and the New York public in general.

One of our most important resources exists collectively with the expertise and counsel of our Advisory Board. We look forward immensely to their continued support and participation as we move into the next year. We are most fortunate in having a Board of Directors whose commitment and energy ensure that we can continue to fulfill our mandate into the next year and beyond.

Through the work of the United Nations Association of New York and the over 175 community-based chapters around the country, UNA-USA creates a powerful national constituency for a United Nations that advances American interests in a global system. UNA offers each and every American the opportunity to connect with the critical issues confronted by the U.N. — from global health and human rights, to the spread of democracy, equitable sustainable development, and international justice. UNA educates Americans about the work of the United Nations, and builds public support for more effective U.S. engagement in the U.N.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

William Karg

Bill Karg was honored by our board at the May Annual Meeting, for over a decade of active and committed board membership.

His dedication to our chapter has been extraordinary and his commitment has been inspiring to all who have served with him on the board.

In his long association with UNA-NY he has served as President of the chapter and currently serves as Director of Development and head of the Nominating Committee.

Past awardees include Sylvan Barnet, Jr., Amb. Joseph Verner Reed, Joan Gudefin, and Peter Rajsingh.



UNA-NY Treasurer Robin van Puyenbroeck and board honoree William Karg at the 2010 Annual Meeting.

UNACAREERS 2010

Over 200 UNA-NY members and guests explored the opportunities and career paths in the non-profit sector with Caroline Avakian, Communications Officer at Trickle Up and Juan Brito, Associate Director of Staffing and Employee Relations of the Rockefeller Foundation.

The April 29 event was held at the Hungarian Mission to the UN and our generous hosts provided food and wine to cap a memorable evening.

Caroline Avakian's organization, Trickle Up, works with the poorest of the poor, people living on less than \$1 a day, providing them

with seed grants to build cottage industries to take their first steps out of poverty.

Juan Brito's organization, The Rockefeller Foundation, is a private philanthropic institution, which supports work that expands opportunity and strengthens resilience to social, economic, health and environmental challenges. Our career evenings always hold much interest and provoke many questions from our members.

We plan to provide more career-oriented events this fall and next spring.

UNA-NY GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Remember friends and family on birthdays and anniversaries with this special gift.

\$25 introductory price!

Visit our website for details:

www.unanyc.org

The Worldview Institute : Spring 2010

The Worldview Institute Spring 2010 Semester marked its fifth graduating class. The semester was comprised of ten sessions covering an array of topics. Each session presented a different area of discussion, ranging from global finance, to environmental issues, to geopolitics. In addition, the seminars fostered an atmosphere of comfortable networking

and easy engagement in dialogue, providing wine receptions and catered dinners and refreshments at all sessions.

The semester's notable faculty included: the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan and India, the President and CEO of Women's World Banking, a reporter from the Financial Times, a professor

of European Studies and the SAIS Bologna Center of Johns Hopkins University, and the former United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs.

Sessions were held throughout the city, at different missions to the UN, as well as corporate venues. The graduation dinner was held at the National Arts Club, featuring the Liberian Ambassador to the US as the keynote speaker.

Look for details of our fall semester later this summer. The seminars are scheduled to take place Wednesday evenings from November 3, 2010 through January 28, 2011.



More Diversified, Engaged Membership Taking New Initiatives

ROBIN VAN PUYENBROECK
TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

2010 has been an exciting year for our New York Chapter. Membership has been growing consistently, our exciting program offerings continue to expand with many new initiatives in the pipeline, and also financially our Chapter is healthy.



I am happy to report that UNA-NY became the largest UNA Chapter in the country with 781 active members as of May 31st. When including members that are in a grace period for renewing their membership, the Chapter's membership totals 955. This success is the result of the hard work, effortless engagement and enthusiasm of our many members, volunteers and also the Chapter's leadership team. I would like to thank you all for your dedication and commitment to educating, inspiring and mobilizing the New York City community to support the principles and vital work of the UN.

In order to strengthen our constituency, the Board of Directors set an ambitious target to grow to 1,000 members by the end of the year, a goal which we are confident to reach. The Board considers growing membership not only essential for the well-being of our organization, but also indispensable when building a powerful constituency for a United Nations that advances American interests in a global system. We are, therefore, committed to strengthen the UN system and to promote constructive US leadership at the United Nations.

When analyzing the Chapter's membership, we learned that

our membership became more diversified. We see a lot of young professionals signing up and becoming engaged members, taking new initiatives and bringing ideas to the table. This is most encouraging and makes us confident about the future. The Worldview Institute successfully finished its fifth semester in June, with yet again an impressive faculty and an inspiring group of participants. Social networking groups have also been great tools to reach out to our members and we encourage you to participate and sign up for our Facebook and LinkedIn groups.

Challenges remain, however, and membership renewal is one of them. We have to work harder to ensure that our members renew their membership when it is due. Our parent UNA-USA, where membership is administered, is also stepping up its efforts to make this happen. As our Chapter's Membership Chair, I would also like to reach out to you directly with an appeal to renew your membership (if you haven't already done so) and to tell your relatives, friends and colleagues about our work and encourage them to join our wonderful organization! You can do so at unanyc.org.

JAPANESE TEENS VISIT UN

Sixteen Japanese students from Kwassui junior and high school in Nagasaki were taken on a guided tour of the UN headquarters in a July 29 visit arranged by UNA-NY. The 130-year-old institution is one of the oldest girls schools in Japan. This scene is one of the highlights of the students' two-week stay in the U.S. The girls had a memorable time viewing the sights, practicing English and building good will with their host families.



SAVE THE DATE

Be sure to mark
October 21, 2010
on your calendars
for our annual
UNA-NY Gala Dinner
at The Union Club!

UNA-NY Advocacy Continues Grass Roots Efforts

JOAN LEVY | ADVOCACY CHAIR



The broad mission of the Advocacy Committee is to work at the grass roots level to lobby one's representatives in Washington to enact legislation on the important issues of the day. At the same time, it is equally important to inform and educate the public about these issues and encourage them to get involved in their districts to lobby their representatives to pass important legislation that will benefit all our citizens.

Last year, the Advocacy Committee updated two resolutions that had been passed previously by the National Convention held every year by UNA-USA. Sharlene Ratcliff-Korenica, then one of our members, presented two updated resolutions on Darfur and Trafficking. Both were well received and approved by the Convention. We also continued to

work with the UN on publicizing the Capital Master Plan which has begun its renovation of the United Nations Headquarters.

This year, the committee continued to emphasize its concerns with trafficking, now a world wide epidemic. Our member Sherrie Murphy planned and presented an exciting program featuring Somaly Mam, a victim of trafficking and prostitution (see article on page 4). Somaly has a Foundation for helping young girls to escape their bondage and make better lives for themselves. Also featured on the program were a group of prominent experts, all well known in the fight to eliminate child prostitution and trafficking. The program was very well attended and resulted in a burst of interest from the audience on how to get more involved with this vital issue.

The committee is also interested in the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty,



reviewed in a three-week session at the United Nations in May. The newest member of our Committee, Leila Zubi, is spearheading an effort to organize Student Alliances in local schools in New York City.

To sum up, the emphasis of our Committee is to continue stressing grass roots efforts, working with our local representatives in Congress, and educating the public on important current issues so that these consumers can join advocacy efforts vital to all citizens.



From left: Sherrie Murphy, Carol Smolenski, Jennifer Dreher, Celhia de Lavarene, Guy Jacobson, Somaly Mam. Photo: Norman McGrath.

Somaly Mam: A Heroine from the Brothels

UNA-NY PANEL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SHERRIE MURPHY | EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

On March 8th, UNA-NY held a panel discussion on human trafficking, which has been described by the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) as the fastest growing organized crime in the world. It is estimated that 4 million women, young girls and boys are kidnapped and sold into sexual slavery every year, generating over \$4 billion in illicit income for the brothel owners and kidnapers. The panel consisted of five speakers, who addressed different aspects of the human trafficking (HT) crisis, such as the average age of victims, the countries most heavily involved, the US laws protecting victims from being prosecuted as prostitutes, and what federal and state governments, NGOs, individual citizens and the travel industry in particular can do to combat this horrific crime.

The featured speaker on the panel was Somaly Mam, who talked about her personal experience as an HT survivor in Cambodia. She was sold into sexual slavery by her

grandfather when she was just twelve years old and imprisoned in a series of brothels for the next decade, until she managed to escape with the help of a French humanitarian worker.

Her inspiring memoir, *THE ROAD OF LOST INNOCENCE*, was praised by New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof, who called her "a heroine of the brothels," not only for what she endured but for what she has accomplished through the Somaly Mam Foundation, helping over 6,000 young Cambodian former sex slaves to escape and build a new life.

Jennifer Dreher is Senior Director of the Anti-Trafficking Program (ATP) at Safe Horizon, the leading victim assistance organization in the U.S. She described the legal services this NGO provides to HT survivors in New York City and how current legislation affects service delivery.

Carol Smolenski is Executive Director and co-founder of ECPAT-USA, an acronym for End Child Prostitution and Trafficking. She explained that ECPAT International operates in 75 countries, working to protect every child's right to grow up free from sexual exploitation. At the UNA-NY panel discussion, Carol focused on the rapid escalation of sex trafficking in the U.S.

Guy Jacobson is a filmmaker and global activist who was honored with the U.S. State Department's prestigious Global Hero Award in 2008 for his tireless efforts in fighting child sex trafficking. His highly acclaimed 2007 feature film *HOLLY* dramatically raised awareness of the scope and severity of child sex-exploitation as a global epidemic. (It was shown in conjunction with this panel this past April in



UNA-NY's film-talk series, Screening the Issues.) Guy spoke about the Red Light Children Campaign, an NGO he founded in 2002 to end all forms of sex crimes against children, focusing on legislation enforcement and the rule of law.

Celhia de Lavarene is a journalist reporting from the United Nations for almost two decades for *Jeune Afrique* and *Radio France Internationale*. She gave a dramatic and moving account of her work in 2001 in war-torn Bosnia, running the UN's first-ever operation to combat human trafficking. This assignment involved her in police raids on 240 brothels and personal interviews with hundreds of the rescued victims.

The panel discussion was one of the best-attended UNA-NY programs ever, with close to 100 in the audience at the Levin Institute in midtown Manhattan. The panel was organized and moderated by Sherrie Murphy, Executive Vice President on the Board of Directors of UNA-NY.

UNA ADVOCACY

DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION

One of our Chapter's main advocacy themes this year is disarmament and non-proliferation. In order to support the cause of disarmament UNA-NY joined the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace & Security.

In an effort to leverage its strong membership constituency, UNA-NY participated in the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in May 2010 at UN Headquarters in New York. Our organization was represented at the conference by Robin van Puyenbroeck, UNA-NY Treasurer.

The NPT is a landmark international treaty whose objective is to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, to promote cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and to further the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament and general and complete disarmament. The NPT represents the only binding commitment in a multilateral treaty to the goal of disarmament by the nuclear-weapon States.

This year's conference considered critical issues such as the universality of the Treaty, nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, measures to advance the peaceful use of nuclear energy, safety and security, regional disarmament and non-proliferation, implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and ways to promote engagement with civil society in strengthening NPT norms and in promoting disarmament education.

The 2010 Review Conference was considered a relative success as 189 nations reaffirmed their commitment to eliminating all nuclear weapons and setting a new deadline for holding a regional conference to eliminate unconventional weapons from the Middle East.

Links to more information and in-depth reports can be found online: http://unanyc.org/news/2010/20100723_unany_advocacy_disarmament.html

UNA-NY FILMTALK SCREENING THE ISSUES

Our film-talk series **Screening the Issues** presented stimulating and thought-provoking films and discussion events this spring and summer at the Tribeca Grand Hotel in New York. This series has grown in popularity and is an important part of our outreach program to educate and motivate members of civil society.



SERGIO, our most recent screening, was an extraordinary biography of Sergio Vieira de Mello, who was the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative in Iraq and who died in the UN headquarters bombing in Baghdad in August, 2003. The discussion after the screening was led by his friend and colleague, Dr. Jamal Benomar, Chef de Cabinet of the President of the General Assembly. Also, Samantha Power, special advisor to President Barack Obama joined us from Washington DC. Her book "Chasing the Flame" was the basis for the documentary and she led a lively discussion after the film.



Our June 7th screening of MY COUNTRY IS TIBET inspired an engaging discussion with our guest, the exiled Dharma King of Tibet, Namgyal Wangchuk Trichen Lhagyari. He was accompanied by

Holly Carter, Founder and Executive Director of BYkids. As Dharma King, Namgyal carries the unique responsibility of representing Tibet's unbroken history and heritage. As a teenager, however, he also represents a new generation of young Tibetans who are caught between the peaceful traditions of Buddhism and a desperate desire to fight for the freedom of their people.



Among other notable films in the series this year was HOLLY, a fictional examination of the human trafficking issues in the Far East, with co-producer Guy Jacobson leading the discussion afterwards.



We also screened AS SEEN THROUGH THESE EYES in January, commemorating the UN's International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Mr. Fred Terna, one of the artists and concentration camp survivors portrayed in the film, led the post-screening discussion and answered questions about his life in the camp.

NEW UNA-NY BOARD MEMBERS

We welcome these new members to our Board of Directors. Look to meet them at our programs and events.

Jonathan Tabar
Robin van Puyenbroeck
Leila Zubi

UNA-NY Student Alliances 2010

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Student Alliances are action-oriented school programs that encourage globally-minded high school, undergraduate and graduate students to educate, inspire and mobilize Americans and the U.S. government to support the principles and vital work of the UN. Through outreach, education and advocacy initiatives, among others — and partnerships with other organizations at their school, and Student Alliances within UNA-NY as well as the national UNA-USA network — students can collectively sound their voices and make their opinions heard amongst their peers and communities, as well as throughout the nation and the world!

President Obama and his administration have pledged to strengthen America's global leadership through a renewed emphasis on international cooperation, diplomacy and active participation at the United Nations, so now is the time to get involved. Students and teacher/faculty advisors can play a vital role in ensuring that the MDGs become a reality,

and to see the success of their own efforts in the next five years.

UNA-NY provides each Student Alliance with a Campaign Agenda in support of UN Millennium Development Goals. This agenda sets forth the framework for the school's outreach, education, advocacy, fundraising and evaluation efforts. Each semester, the work of each Student Alliance will be evaluated by the Advocacy Committee of UNA-NY's Board of Directors by assigning each initiative one point. The Student Alliance(s) which implements the highest number of initiatives on the agenda will be invited to UNA-NY's annual formal gala in October 2011, and honored with an award by its President. Local and UN media will showcase the winning school(s) and presentation of the Student Alliance award.

By creating and building a Student Alliance at their school, not only will students be helping ensure the achievement of the MDGs by 2015, but they will be establishing their school as a leader in this historic global partnership.

For more information on registering schools for UNA-NY Student Alliances, as well as important links and downloadable forms, please visit unanyc.org.

UNA-NY AMBASSADOR SERIES

SUMMER 2010

Our lecture programs with the Columbia University Club of New York continued this year with UNA-NY's **Ambassador Series**.

On June 10, Ambassador Cesare Ragaglini, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, spoke on aspects of Italian foreign policy at the United Nations to a full house of more than 150 guests.

Ambassador Ragaglini studied International Relations at the Université Libre de Bruxelles followed by Political Science, with an international focus at the University of Florence. His diplomatic career has spanned many regions and assignments starting in Teheran in 1981. He served in Ottawa for three years before returning to Rome where he was assigned to Parliament. He created the Italian Foreign Ministry's Intelligence Unit, which he directed until 1992. In 1996, he was assigned to reopen the Italian Dip-



lomatic Mission in Baghdad, where he remained as Head of Mission until 1999.

Before taking up his position in New York, Ambassador Ragaglini served as Deputy Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chef de Cabinet of the Italian Foreign Minister. He was awarded the rank of Grand Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic in 2006.

Look for our forthcoming Ambassador Series events this fall, in October and December.