



**United Nations
Association of Australia
Western Australia
Division**

Annual Report 2012/13

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[Photo: UNAAWA Executive showing 'what the UN means to us' for the UN Day DVD]

Our People



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012/13

OFFICE BEARERS

President

Carolyne Gatward

Vice President (Ordinary Members)

Neesha Seth

Vice President (Organisations)

Julia Crandell (*UN Youth WA*)

Honorary Treasurer

Harvey Davies

Honorary Secretary

Renata Sivacolundhu

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Judith Parker AM DSJ

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Joseph Caruso (Global Representative)

Amanda Joseph

Tony McRae

Jan Ryan

Jessica Watts

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

Amnesty International Australia (WA)

Delegate: Kombe Musonda

Australian Asian Association

Delegate: Radha de Mel

Georgist Education Association WA Inc

Delegate: Owen Loneragan

Multicultural Women's Leadership Group (MWLG)

Delegate: Margaret Chiramba

National Council of Jewish Women of Australia (WA)

Delegate: Ester Steingiesser

Universal Great Brotherhood

Delegate: Manita Beskow

AUDITOR

Peter Illidge FCCA FCIS MBA

REPORTS

1. President's Report

Another dynamic year for the Association has concluded. The activities in this Annual Report provide only a snapshot of our overall work and it is surprising and very pleasing to review the year and be reminded of how much we, as a small organisation of volunteers, achieve.

This would of course be impossible without all of the people who graciously and generously donate their skills and time. In particular, Curtis Clark (office manager), Harvey Davies (treasury/IT) and the volunteers in the office deserve hearty thanks for their assistance. I am also indebted to the Executive team for their ongoing support and commitment to the Association. In turn, we rely heavily on the contribution of members and our subcommittees/working groups for human rights, education and the Yolande Frank Memorial Award respectively. As the newsletter editor for the past 18 months or so, I am further grateful to the band of ever-reliable helpers who have made submissions and taken photos for our publication.

In relation to funding and grants, as our computing equipment is in need of replacement we applied for a grant in June via Lotterywest for this purpose and we will find out if we have been successful later this year. In November 2012, we were successful in obtaining a grant from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) for a new camera for the Association and I am looking forward to seeing stunning high resolution photos of our future events.

In terms of global matters, one of the highlights of 2012/13 was Australia's election to the UN Security Council for the first time in 26 years. Australia's priorities on the Council include Afghanistan, Syria, Iran and North Korea. Australia does have influence and 'a voice' at the UN. For example, in April 2013, Australia helped progress global arms control by being one of the sponsors of the General Assembly resolution to establish a Small Arms Trade Treaty. The treaty will help control the transfer of arms and weapons where previously there have been wide gaps in international law.

The UNAA is encouraging the Government to work with the international community to strengthen global efforts in peacekeeping, post-conflict reconstruction, international justice and the responsibility to protect. Australia will have a turn as the Security Council President in September 2013.

As always, thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you at one of our events in the future.

Carolyn Gatward, President



Finance

2. Financial Reports

2.1 Audit Report

United Nations Association of Australia (WA) Inc

Audit report

Statement of significant accounting policies

The attached financial reports of the United Nations Association of Australia (WA) Inc (the Association) have been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the WA Associations Incorporation Act (1987). The Association is not a reporting entity and accordingly no International Accounting Standards, urgent issues, consensus views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

Audit Report

The accompanying financial reports of the Association show a deficit for the 12 months to 30 June 2013 of \$4,433.77. The net assets, mainly cash at bank, as at 30 June 2012 were \$10,641.41.

The accounts however do not reflect the operating cost of the Association due to the way special purpose funds are treated. Special Purpose Funds are really liabilities and the fluctuations to them through the year, income to and payments from, should be shown separately. I shall look at presenting this information in more detail next year. The actual operating cost of the organisation was according to my calculation \$499.50 and the reduction in the special purpose accounts which are not really operating items was \$3,934.27.

However, with that proviso in my opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Association present fairly the assets and liabilities at 30 June 2013 and the income and expenditure of the Association for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of the WA Associations Incorporations Act (1987)

The standard of record keeping was good.



Peter Illidge FCPA FCIS MBA

Auditor

12 August 2013

2.2 Statement of Income and Expenditure

United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division)

Statement of Income & Expenditure for the year ending 30th June 2013

Income

Correction of error in 2011-2012 accounts	\$103.78
Adjustment to GST refund for 2011-2012	\$1.68
Bank interest	\$255.41
PayPal fees	\$19.64
TryBooking fees	\$56.77
Membership subscriptions	\$2,572.69
Donations to general funds	\$65.00
Office sales	\$77.27
Yolande Frank Memorial Fund	\$697.68
Grant for purchase of camera	\$1,089.00
Multicultural Young Women's Leadership Group	\$240.00
Sausage Sizzle fund raising events	\$1,647.90
UN Day event	\$3,984.76
"Australia and the UN" event	\$2,327.39
Other events	\$116.00
	<hr/>
	\$13,254.97

Expenditure

Bank charges	\$28.50
PayPal fees	\$19.64
TryBooking fees	\$56.77
Rent	\$4,409.60
Federal Levy (2 years)	\$800.00
Office supplies	\$1,004.58
Computing and website	\$306.82
Yolande Frank Memorial Fund	\$500.00
Membership in other organisations	\$50.00
Purchase of camera	\$1,025.41
Multicultural Young Women's Leadership Group	\$4,371.95
UN Day event	\$3,449.13
"Australia and the UN" event	\$988.73
Other events	\$677.61
	<hr/>
	\$17,688.74

Deficit

\$4,433.77

2.3 Balance Sheet

United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division) Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2013

	30 June- 2012	30 June- 2013
Assets		
Current Assets		
BankWest cheque account	\$5,843.65	\$4,476.61
BankWest telenet saver account	\$10,025.79	\$5,780.94
Total Current Assets	<u>\$15,869.44</u>	<u>\$10,257.55</u>
Non-current Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
GST credit	\$2,404.87	\$1,125.79
Total Assets	<u>\$18,274.31</u>	<u>\$11,383.34</u>
Liabilities		
Unpresented cheques	\$1,291.58	\$45.00
GST debt	\$1,907.55	\$696.93
Total Liabilities	<u>\$3,199.13</u>	<u>\$741.93</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$15,075.18</u>	<u>\$10,641.41</u>
Members' Funds		
Opening Balance	\$13,968.74	\$15,075.18
Current Year Surplus	\$1,106.44	-\$4,433.77
Total Members' Funds	<u>\$15,075.18</u>	<u>\$10,641.41</u>
Allocation to Special-purpose Funds		
Model UN	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00
Multicultural Young Women's Leadership Group	\$4,400.00	\$209.25
Yolande Frank Memorial Award	\$3,113.49	\$3,311.17
	<u>\$10,413.49</u>	<u>\$6,420.42</u>
Remaining Members' Funds	<u>\$4,661.69</u>	<u>\$4,220.99</u>

2.4 Treasurer's Comments

The decrease in total assets over the year is almost all due to the decrease in funds held on behalf of the Multicultural Young Women's Leadership Group. This is of no concern as it is not our money. I encourage this group to open their own bank account and look after these funds themselves.

The *Remaining Members' Funds* (general funds) have not changed significantly over the year. In fact if the federal levy of \$400 for 2011/12 had been paid on time then there would have been an increase of about \$400 rather than the actual decrease of about \$400.

Membership subscriptions totalled about \$2,600. The two sausage sizzles made a profit of about \$1,600. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade supported two events which made a profit of about \$1,900.

A PayPal facility was introduced for the online payment of subscriptions. The TryBooking online system was provided for some event booking. These both proved successful but we will continue to support the traditional methods of payment and booking.

Human Rights

3. Human Rights

3.1 Human Rights (HR) Forum

The HR Forum met nine times in the last year with an attendance between 4 - 12 persons with an average of seven per meeting. Originally, the group met under the name of the Human Rights Committee on Fridays from 10:30am until 1:00pm with members bringing and sharing lunch, but from early in 2013 with the approval of the Executive Committee the name was changed from 'committee' to 'forum'. Meetings are now on the first or second Saturday of the month from 10:00am to 11:30am.

This year the focus was on broad topics that have an impact on human rights and social justice such as globalisation, multiculturalism, population growth, international law, social media and climate change and on the ways that action can be taken in the context of the UN human rights conventions, protocols and principles to assist those whose human rights have been abused.

Members have a wide range of interests and the Forum provides an opportunity to share personal experiences as human rights 'defenders' and give other members brief reports on events held by the Law Society, the Australian Red Cross International Humanitarian Law unit, the Baha'is, the Social Justice unit of the Uniting Church, Amnesty, the National Council of Women and the National Council of Jewish Women, to name a few.

Most members are also supporters of our own UNAAWA events, some of which are jointly supported by the above named groups.

Over the last year, some of the events members attended were:

- Social Justice Lecture by Dan Mori, RetUSM (Defender of David Hicks) – Sept 21
- UN Day on the Elimination of Poverty – October 17
- International Children Week and Day – October 21 and October 24
- Kristallnacht – November 8
- UN Women movie fundraiser – November 10
- Human Rights Day; the UNAAWA /Mental Health Law Centre event – December 10
- International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust – January 29
- International Women's Day; NCW/UNAAWA – March 5
- UNAAWA display for Law Week – May 13 to 18

Special presentations during the year were made by President Carolyne Gatward (visit to Geneva and the workshop on the Human Rights Treaty Bodies – we viewed the DVD prepared by the United Nations Human Rights Council at a later meeting) and Felicity Heffernan on the Responsibility to Protect (R2P).

All members are welcome to the HR Forum meetings; just phone or email the office for details.

Curtis Clark and Owen Loneragan – Co-Convenors, HR Forum

3.2 Yolande Frank Memorial Award

2013 is the fourth year of the award. The winner of the 2012 award was Chris Kovacs, aged 10 years, from Parkwood Primary School. The award is open to Western Australian school children aged between 9 and 14 years. Children are encouraged to creatively illustrate a selected article of the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

The award honours the memory of Yolande Frank, a survivor of the Holocaust. Yolande had a conviction that the children of Western Australia should understand the importance of the Declaration of Human Rights. She was a long term and active member of the UNAAWA, the National Council of Women and the Australian Council of Jewish Women WA.

The article selected this year is Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights below.

All are equal before the law and entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

It was suggested that teachers concentrate on the first sentence of the article. Teachers' kits have been available from the UNAAWA office. The winning entry is retained by UNAAWA and a postcard is then produced of this winning entry. Packs of the four winning postcards will be available from the office for \$3 from September. In 2013, the previous three winning entries were professionally mounted and they are displayed in the office.

Entries were accepted to July 31 with judging to take place on August 7. The winner will be announced at the AGM. The winner receives a book prize and \$200, plus \$150 is donated to their school library and a list of suitable human rights focused books are supplied. Two Highly Commended prizes of \$50 are awarded. Each participating child receives a certificate.

The 2013 judges are:

- Curtis Clark, representing UNAAWA;
- Diana Warnock, representing the artistic community; and
- Jillian Greene, representing the Australian Council of Jewish Women WA.

*[Below: 2012 Yolande Frank Memorial Award—
Highly Commended Category Winner by Sarah Tucker]*



A fundraising lunch was held in April for the award fund. Members are invited to join the award committee. The committee meets once a year, in November, to plan the next year's award (other business being conducted by email). If you are interested, please contact Judith Parker by leaving a message at UNAAWA.

Donations to the award fund are gratefully accepted. Please make your cheque out to UNAAWA and indicate that the donation is for the Yolande Frank Memorial Fund.

Judith A. Parker AM DSJ, Yolande Frank Memorial Committee (Chair)

Education

4. Education

4.1 Education Working Group

UNAAWA established the Education Working Group (EWG) during 2013 to promote awareness of the work of the United Nations in WA educational institutions. Members of the EWG met twice in the period to June 2013 and achieved the following:

- participated in the Mirrabooka SHS peace day fete and presentation of award at school assembly;
- finalised content for inclusion of an EWG page on the UNAAWA website;
- developed promotional material outlining benefits of organisational membership;
- negotiated procedures for preparation of school information kits and media information;
- identified other organisations and programs that may be promoted in WA schools such as Clean Up the World (UNEP), World Environment Day Awards (UNAA Victoria), World Refugee Day Art Contest (UNHCR);
- mapped links to the new Australian Curriculum;
- explored opportunities for building links with the comprehensive education programs available through UN Youth Australia;
- developed a proposal for implementation of World Teachers' Day Awards in 2014; and
- developed a proposal for partnering with Save the Children in the implementation of the Global Peace Schools program in WA.

All of the above achievements represent the first preparatory steps for projects from 2014 and beyond. Potentially the most significant project will be the Global Peace Schools program. The following background information was presented to the UNAAWA Executive in June 2013.

Global Peace Schools (GPS)

1. The Save the Children GPS Program grew out of a United Nations initiative that started around 2002 in WA. Christ Church Grammar School was one of two WA schools recognised under the UN Initiative.
2. The UN initiative aimed to build understanding of the child soldiers issue in secondary schools. It was based on students reading a novel on child soldiers

(*Marie: In the Shadow of the Lion*) written by Jerry Piasecki (UN Radio Services).

3. The SA Branch of Save the Children heard of the initiative in 2004 and negotiated with the UN to promote it in Australia. It has since evolved into the Save the Children GPS Program.
4. The Save the Children GPS Program is now a whole school approach based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. There is a rigorous accreditation program taking up to 24 months. Initially, accredited schools were given a UN flag to fly. This no longer occurs, although feedback indicates that flying the UN flag is a significant attraction for some schools. There is anecdotal evidence of families selecting a school because of the UN flag.
5. The nature of the relationship with the UN needs clarification. Jerry Piasecki still interacts with the Save the Children SA Branch. Currently, schools gaining accreditation receive a letter from the Australian Ambassador to the UN.
6. Essentially, SA is the only State where the GPS program has gained a foothold – currently eight schools are accredited.
7. Save the Children recently commenced a national review of the program. It is therefore timely to be discussing the feasibility of a partnership between UNAOWA and the WA Branch of Save the Children to promote the concept in WA schools.

Rees Barrett, Convenor, EWG

Key Events

5. Key Events/Activities

5.1 UN Day 2012

Our main event for UN Day 2012 was a public lecture titled *“The Lucky Country? Australia’s role in the protection of refugees in our region”*, held at the Constitutional Centre of WA. The event considered issues including Australia's contribution in the area of humanitarian aid, specifically for refugee and asylum seeker processes, and how Australia is tracking under the 1951 Refugee Convention.

Keynote speaker Professor Gillian Triggs, the newly appointed President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, provided insight into Australia’s legal obligations under the 1951 Convention and what this means in practice for our treatment of asylum seekers. Recently returned from a trip to the Christmas Island detention facility, Professor Triggs outlined the

concerns she had raised at the centre, including overcrowding, prolonged detention, poor standards of accommodation and inadequate recreation facilities. She also discussed Australia's offshore processing of asylum seekers in Nauru and Manus Island, raising concerns that such arrangements may result in breaches of Australia's human rights obligations.

(Photo L to R: Prof. Gillian Triggs, Neesha Seth, Carina Hoang, Carlyne Gatward)



The event also featured guest speaker Ms Carina Hoang, Special Representative for Australia for UNHCR, who gave a very powerful presentation of her own experience leaving Vietnam as a refugee. She spoke of the courage and loss of dignity needed to make these perilous journeys with little knowledge of what may be waiting and of the anguish of families being separated.



The audience of around 100 people also heard short introductions from Davina Hunter, Young UN Women; Kerry Stophor, UN Women and Julia Crandell, UN Youth about their respective organisations. A lively discussion with the speakers followed the main presentations.

This event paid tribute to Professor Tom Stannage, an esteemed academic at both UWA and Curtin University, who passed away in early October. Professor Stannage was honoured in an opening address by Dr Jan Ryan (UNAAWA) and in remarks by Associate Professor Mary Anne Kenny, Director of the Centre for Human Rights Education at Curtin University.

The event raised approximately \$1,500 for UNHCR's work in our region. UNAAWA gratefully acknowledges the support of AusAID for this event.

Renata Sivacolundhu, UNAAWA Secretary

5.2 'Australia & the UN - Making a Difference'

On 2 May, approximately 100 people attended the UNAAWA event 'Australia and the UN: Can We Make A Difference?' at Curtin University. The Curtin University Centre for Human Rights Education partnered with us and we were supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

A panel of leading government, NGO and academic representatives shared their experiences and their expectations for Australia's role with the UN through involvement on the Security Council and via other UN mechanisms - and then considered the role civil societies can play in holding countries accountable for their treaty obligations. This was followed by an opportunity for the audience to frame questions and comment.



Photo: May 2 event guest speakers Fiona McGaughey, Michael Wood, Tammy Solonec, Paddy Cullen, Russell Trood (UNAA National President).

5.3 International Women's Day Lunch

Approximately 100 people attended the lunch on 5 March 2013 to celebrate International Women's Day. The lunch was organised by the UNAAWA, the National Council of Women WA and the African Women's Council of Australia. Sue Gordon AM, retired magistrate of the Children's Court, gave the keynote speech on domestic violence.

5.4 Day of Commemoration in Memory of Victims of the Holocaust

On 29 January, this function was held at the Jewish Community Centre. Co-hosted by the United Nations Association of Australia (WA), the Holocaust Institute of WA, the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia (WA) and the Jewish Historical & Genealogical Society of WA, it attracted about 60 people, including representatives of numerous religious groups.

Immediate Past President Judith Parker hosted the event in the absence of the UNAA President who was in Geneva. Judith read the United Nation Secretary General Ban Ki Moon's message for this occasion. The theme for 2013 was 'Rescue During the Holocaust: the Courage to Care', a tribute to those who protected victims of the Holocaust at enormous personal risk.

The documentary 'Paper Clips' was shown, and all present were moved by the remarkable efforts of the children of a small southern American school to take a lesson about tolerance in 1998 and convert it to a Holocaust memorial project that became a monument in the Middle School of Whitwell, Tennessee. Attendees of the function left wearing paperclips – the anti-Nazi symbol of support and defiance worn by people in Norway where the humble object was invented.

Ester Steingjesser, NCJWA (WA) & UNAABA Executive

5.5 International Day of Peace

On 21 September, NCJWA organised in collaboration with Brahma Kumaris WA and the UNAABA, an Interfaith Event for World Peace, to celebrate International Peace Day. The ceremony was held at the 'Peace Grove' in East Perth. The memorial was erected in memory of President Anwar el Sadat of Egypt and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel – both Nobel Peace Prize winners – and both assassinated because of their courageous efforts for peace.

Judith Parker (UNAABA) opened the program. We had prayers for peace from the Muslim, Jewish, Baha'i, Buddhist and Universal Brotherhood representatives. Mr Richard Farago, a Holocaust survivor and the driving force behind the creation of the Peace Grove, gave respect and honour to Yitzhak Rabin and Anwar el Sadat, and told us about this special place that is surrounded by olive trees and by the word PEACE in many languages.



*(Photo left:
Australian Islamic College students)*

We heard peace songs in Arabic by the Year 9 class from the Australian Islamic College and in Hebrew by Estee Todres and Jesse Sharp. The ceremony finished with a Guided Meditation for World Peace by Carolyn Minter, Brahma Kumaris Australia.

Ester Steingjesser (NCJWA WA, UNAABA Executive) & Eva Szauter (Brahma Kumaris WA)

5.6 World Day against Child Labour

Each year on 12 June, the World Day against Child Labour brings together governments, employers and workers organizations, civil society, as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of child labourers. Around 215 million children are trapped in this form of slavery today. The focus for World Day against Child Labour in 2013 was 'no to child labour in domestic work'. The ILO estimates that 15.5 million children are engaged in paid or unpaid domestic work in the home of a third party or employer.

This year, UNAAWA partnered with the World Organisation for Early Childhood Education Australia and the National Council of Women WA to hold an event on the issue of child labour at the Rod Evans Centre in East Perth. Approximately forty people attended to hear from the smorgasbord of guest speakers on the topic, including Judith Parker (UNAAWA), Dr Dawn Butterworth (OMEP Australia), Jan Mantel (ASeTTS), Jessica Watts (Walk Free), Kay Benham (Department of Child Protection & Families) and Major Donna Bryan (Salvation Army). Not only was the event informative, but it raised awareness of how prevalent the scourge of child labour still is 2013.

In the small Caribbean country of Haiti for example, high levels of poverty combined with cultural acceptability have allowed a system of child labour called 'restavek' to survive. Poorer families from rural areas send their children to work as domestic helpers for more affluent families in cities. Many suffer emotional, psychological and physical abuse. It is estimated that there are between 150 000 and 500 000 children in this situation for forced domestic servitude, which could affect approximately one in every 10 children in Haiti.

Jessica Watt, UNAAWA Executive

Global Matters

6. Global Representative's Report

We have experienced as a nation and also from a global perspective, unprecedented events, in some ways impacting on our lives. Recently in Australia we have witnessed a major Federal Government upheaval with a new Prime Minister replacement and changed Federal policies for asylum seekers entering our shores, notwithstanding the advocacy of human rights and UNHCR core values that Australia must abide by, sustaining and preserving dignity to all people that enter our shores as refugees.

Issues of disadvantage associated with the health, education and employment of our Indigenous first Australians, as well as the problem of youth unemployment remain of concern to all Australians and require unified attention. In the global arena, we continue to witness protracted human suffering in the form of the genocide occurring in Syria as well as the civil unrest in Egypt. For a brief moment in history, we considered that the acts of genocide of three decades ago in Rwanda and Burundi would never re-occur. How wrong we were! Moreover, how do we prevent conflict resulting in atrocity that drives to destroy human life itself?

World issues of dire food and water shortages, diseases and global conflict are forever in the headlines in this modern day millennium. Insofar as progress, we can successfully report Australian representation in holding a seat in the United Nations, at least we have a voice, albeit a small voice.

In the UN pathway of the 8 MDG (Millennium Development Goals), progress is being made in the key cause of reducing poverty. Reduction of poverty will enhance education, maternal care and gender equality and will elevate social and economic standards to the world's poorest nations.

Whether we are members of a State, Federal or UN body, we are all ambassadors in the advocacy of the core values, aims and aspirations of the United Nations. We are obliged to show stewardship to live in a world of equality, peace and respected multicultural, shared values.

From our geographical home in Perth, Western Australia, our Executive is committed and active in all aspects of human rights. We further show much care for our environment, however we seek a dedicated sub-committee to lead this great cause. The Executive continues to expand and extend our UNAA Mission Statement to various sectors in our community and it is to be complimented on the initiative in advancing the mission ethos. As a priority, our drive continues to sustain and increase UNAAWA membership.

In summary, we can all do something as ambassadors by promoting open discussion, showing and promoting leadership to our young and endeavouring to make the world a better place. To do nothing is not an option. We are here to make a difference to aspire and improve living standards for all.

Joseph Caruso, UNAAWA Global Representative

Youth

7. UN Youth WA's Report

OVERVIEW

This year has been a really successful one for UN Youth WA, which is a testament to the hard work of all our volunteers, who have shown great levels of skill and keenness. Thank you and congratulations to all members for what you've achieved this year!!

2012/13 has seen a lot of growth in terms of our organisational capacity and numbers of students we've worked with. We've expanded our volunteer base and the positions available to them. We reached more students than ever before, through greatly expanding our schools program and attracting more delegates to our events. We ran new events which reached out to more young people, and got the UN Youth brand out there into the community more.

This report is an overview of what UN Youth WA has achieved this year, looking specifically at events and executive portfolios. It details what can only be described as an amazing and super fun year! Thanks must go out to the National Executive, and of course to UNAA for all their help and support over the last year.

The executive for 2012-13 was as follows:

President	Julia Crandell
Vice President (Administration)	Duke Cole
Vice President (State Conference)	Sam Herriman
Vice President (Evatt)	Grace Hutchison
Policy	Tim Mead
Education	Keahn Sardinha
Media	Adam Rida
Regional	Oliver Mills
Sponsorship	Gill Mahoney, David Cann

The co-opted members of the Executive were:

Youth Voice Convenor	Shane Chandra (2012), Jordi Lockhart (2013)
Immediate Past President	Ilona Quahe
National Evatt 2013 Convenor	Robbie Williamson

ADMINISTRATION

Duke Cole had his work cut out for him this year, and he rose to the challenge spectacularly! The admin portfolio was particularly important this year because of the process of incorporation, which involved a tonne of paperwork, a new constitution and bylaws, and a whole host of tedious tasks. Becoming incorporated has been a great move forward for the growth of the organisation, and it's fantastic that this went down so smoothly. Duke also did a fab job of moving UN Youth WA into the 21st century, with such innovations as the facilitator lounge and online reimbursements, and use of websites like Mailchimp and Wufoo. The finances were managed well and we remain in a strong financial position moving into the new UN Youth year. Duke was great at generally being on top of everything, and providing support for myself as President.

STATE CONFERENCE

Sam Herriman did an amazing job of making sure all the delegates attending State Conference took away from it as much as they possibly could have. It took the traditional form of a weekend long camp at Ern Halliday Recreation Camp from March 8-10. The theme of State Conference was “The Pacific Voice”, whereby students explored the history and issues specific to the Pacific, as well as Australia’s role within it. The weekend included workshops (Intro to UN and theme workshops), an Interactive Problem Solving activity, which was expanded from those we’ve run in previous years, and of course model UN debates in committees and the General Assembly. On top of a speakers’ panel, featuring Sarah Percy, Michael Wood, and Sue Boyd, we were honoured to have an opening address delivered by Carmen Lawrence as well as a speech about youth advocacy from UN Youth’s own Rosie Sitoris (from the AYF). As usual, the Friday Night Games and Saturday Night Dance were a highlight for both delegates and facilitators. Youth Motion, with a new and improved format, was another integral part of the weekend.



Photo: delegates and facilitators at State Conference 2013

EVATT TROPHY COMPETITION

Convened by Grace Hutchison, this year’s Evatt was by far our most successful event in terms of delegate numbers, and was particularly professional and well-organised. This year we ran a total of eight rounds: five metro, and three regional in Geraldton, Bunbury and Mandurah. All the rounds were nearly if not completely full, with a grand total of 239 delegates competing. As usual, we held the Grand Final at Parliament House, which is always a fantastic venue which gives the competition an air of prestige and importance.

The rounds ran really smoothly, thanks to Grace being amazingly organized, and a sizeable number of facilitators. They looked very professional with laminated placards and country flags. All facilitators and judges acted at a high standard of maturity and professionalism. The judging was of a high standard, with adoption of the national rubric and introduction of the Head Judge position. However, it would have been great to have seen more than one female judge, and this should definitely be improved next year. This year we will have 5 teams progress to the National Finals, all the way in Perth, and we wish them the best of luck!

POLICY

How could the policy portfolio not have run well in the hands of Tim Mead? Once again, the whole concept of “policy” was re-thought, and we came up with the idea of holding events which raised awareness for a certain issue and also doubled as a fundraiser, raising money for an organisation which focused on that issue. Along those lines, Tim ran a Q&A to coincide with World Humanitarian Day. UNAA provided financial support for the event, which meant that all \$600 raised through ticket sales was able to be donated to an organisation focused around women’s rights in Ethiopia. The Q&A was successful, with over 60 attendees, and was also a good way to spread the UN Youth WA.

Youth Motion remained an important part of State Conference, with delegates creating a document of the ten changes they most wanted to see in the world and closer to home. The Youth Motion Launch, where we presented this document to politicians, featured a keynote address from Dwain Burrige, co-found of I Am The Other, as well as a speech from Katie McAllister, winner of the Ben Playle award for Best Delegate. There was a great turnout, with over 70 delegates and family members in attendance.

It is with sadness in my heart that I record that this was the last year of the policy portfolio. The whole concept of “policy” is not one which is consistent with the outcomes of the organisation, nor is it something we are really equipped to do. The Youth Motion process will not be abolished, but we will re-focus this whole area on “empowerment” rather than “policy” or “advocacy”.

EDUCATION

Under the strong leadership of Keahn Sardinha, the education portfolio was greatly expanded and was (and will continue to be) one of the best avenues for growth of UN Youth as an organisation. The year began with the hurried arrival of the Youth Rep, Dan Ryan, and Keahn managed to secure 10 school visits during the week Dan was here, already eclipsing the number of school visits which have been run in previous years.

The second half of Keahn’s term saw the launch of the shiny new Education Project, offering a range of programs in schools from workshops to MUNs to IPSes. So far this has been a huge success, to the extent that we are struggling to find enough facilitators to run all these school visits. We’ve reached 250 individual students over the course of the year in a range of different schools. In future we need to consider a more sustainable way of ensuring that we have a sufficient number of facilitators, and perhaps having formal “facilitator” roles would be an effective way of doing this.

MEDIA

Adam Rida led the media portfolio this year. This year has been overall a very successful one in terms of social media, in particular on Facebook. No less than 10 photo albums were uploaded to Facebook, and the “likes” on our Facebook have gone up to 480! This amount of online activity has been a great way to expand the UN Youth brand amongst delegates and the broader community. After talking about it for years, we finally bought a divisional camera, which will no doubt be useful in continuing to take high quality photos at all our events. The

media portfolio will be removed from the Exec along with Policy, given that event convenors can and often do organise their own media for their events. However, we do plan on having a Communications Manager for the more technical side of things. In terms of promotions, we had a lot of success with mail outs this year, which we did for Evatt and for the Second Young Leaders Forum. They are a lot less effort than callouts and should definitely be continued in future.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Oliver Mills did a great job as Regional Officer this year, running three regional road trips over the course of the year. During Dan Ryan's visit, Oli ran a trip down south, visiting Bunbury Senior High School and Busselton Senior High School. Later in the year another southern road trip was conducted, this time at Margaret River Senior High School. Finally, a Geraldton Road Trip happened at the end of the UN Youth year, visiting Nagle Catholic College and Strathalbyn Christian College. Overall these trips reached around 120 delegates. On top of this, we ran successful Bunbury and Geraldton regional rounds of Evatt. Running three road trips was particularly impressive given they were run on a tight budget – the grant we used to rely on for regional funding (from the Attorney-General's Department) was frozen and later abolished.

It was disappointing that once again the Broome trip did not happen, and this was partly because of the uncertainty surrounding this grant. In the future I would really encourage the Regional Officer to make looking into the possibility of a Day Forum in Broome a top priority. It would also be cool to have a week-long regional trip with multiple stops, probably down south.

SPONSORSHIP

This year has certainly been the most successful one in terms of sponsorship that I have seen in my UN Youth career. Gillian Mahoney started off as Sponsorship Officer and ran our first ever Quiz Night! This was a great success, both because it raised over \$2,000 for the organisation and because it broadened our brand pervasiveness at UWA and even brought in some new members. Gill continued the sponsorship committee, which was useful in terms of getting new members involved in the organisation, however there was an issue with a lack of commitment of some members. In future it would be good to have formalised roles for subcommittee members.

Unfortunately Gill had to resign in the second half of the UN Youth year, and David Cann stepped into her shoes. David did a great job of securing in-kind sponsorship and cheap deals for State Conference catering. He has also lined up three Bunnings sausage sizzle fundraisers for the next UN Youth year and has starting organising the next Quiz Night.

While fundraising and in-kind sponsorship has been excellent and helped keep the organisation in a strong financial position, it would be great to see more corporate sponsorship in the future. We have had issues with this partially because of a lack of strong vision and evaluation of our events – so improving these things should increase our chances of securing corporate sponsorship in future.

UN YOUTH VOICE

This year we saw an expansion of this Junior Public Speaking Competition under the experienced eye of Shane Chandra. It was expanded to include a semi-final, and the impromptu aspect was removed from the preliminary rounds in order to make participants feel more comfortable at this level. Shane's public speaking knowledge certainly came in handy, with the creation of a comprehensive delegate handbook, new judging criteria, and a high standard of judging and feedback. The competition was run smoothly and looked very professional and prestigious, with medals for all the finalists and even trophies for the Junior and Senior division winners. Rounds were held at Shenton College and Perth Modern School, and the final at UWA. These venues were great but it would be good to see some more geographic diversity of venues in future. We had 80 students participate this year, which was a solid number and around the same as the previous year. This competition certainly has the potential to expand and the elevation of Youth Voice Convenor to the Executive will help to facilitate this.

YOUNG LEADERS FORUMS

These two events were particularly successful, and demonstrate the relative ease with which we are able to get year 9 and 10 students (as compared to year 11 and 12 students), with around 80-90 delegates attending both of these events.

The first Young Leaders Forum, convened by Tide Adegboye and Tim Mead, was on the topic of "Young People as Change Makers", which was true to the whole concept of "Young Leaders". It was run on UN Day, which meant that we were able to secure UNAA funding. We ran workshops on leadership, a mini Youth Motion, and had speakers who were inspiring young people in the community. The second Young Leaders Forum was convened by Grace Huck and Lalita Kirilak, and was on the Rights of the Child. This involved workshops, a speaker on the Northern Territory Intervention, and Youth Change focused around children's rights. Everything was well-organised and the students really enjoyed themselves. We found this topic was really good, particularly for students who are newer to international relations concepts, because it is something they can relate to themselves. We had 80 delegates attend this forum from around 20 different schools, which is really impressive given that we didn't do call outs (but we did do mail outs instead).

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

This year we had the best engagement that we have had with a Youth Rep in my UN Youth memory! Dan Ryan came to Perth in August on very short notice, but he was here for a week which meant we were able to get more out of him than the previous Youth Rep, Benson, who was only in Perth for a day. We ran 10 school visits, including 2 regional visits (thanks to Keahn!). We also ran a workshop at UWA. Unfortunately, this was poorly attended, with only UN Youth members and a few keen delegates. One of the main issues I think was that it was unclear exactly what he was doing as part of the workshop, so this should be improved in future. We also tried to organise a day forum for school student but this fell through, mostly part of the short notice. We were also unable to secure any consultations with youth organisations.

TEACHER INFORMATION EVENING

This was a new event initiative, because we felt that teachers often wanted to get their students involved in UN Youth but didn't know how. Sammi Rudman convened this event and did a fantastic job of securing a venue, getting the major event convenors plus Keahn to organise presentations, organising promotions and catering. It was really unfortunate that we only had around 6 teachers attend, given all the hard work Sammi put into it. One of the issues was that it was at the very beginning of the school year, and teachers had RSVPed the year before and then simply forgotten about it. Nonetheless it was useful for that small number of teachers who did attend, most of whom sent students to our events and/or have had school visits from us. We did a couple of follow-up visits with teachers who were unable to attend, meeting with them one-on-one, and found that this was really valuable even though it was a lot of effort on the part of the facilitators who made these visits. In the future we must



weight up whether a Teacher Information Evening is worthwhile to run again, whether making trips to schools to chat individually with teachers is a better use of our time, or whether neither of these should be continued and we should put our focuses elsewhere.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

This year Clare Woulfe was our Social Activities officer, a role whose importance is not to be underrated! She organised many parties including the inaugural Christmas party, and other social events like Bowling. Having social events is a really important aspect of the organisation, given the importance our members place on socialising and friendship with each other. It's also good to have events which are dry or have a focus other than just alcohol. Perhaps social events could be tied into professional development or other members events to draw in more people. There is also potential for the Social Activities officer role to expand to take on more of a "membership" or "human resources" aspect.

Julia Crandell, UN Youth Australia WA President 2012/13

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