

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**



**Patron His Excellency Mr Malcolm McCusker AO QC  
Governor of Western Australia**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11  
Western Australian Division**

**Presented at the Annual General Meeting  
14 August 2011**

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**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INC.**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11**

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## UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA WA INC.

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2010/2011

#### OFFICE BEARERS

<i>President WA</i>	Judith A. Parker AM DSJ
<i>Vice President</i>	Carolyne Gatward
<i>Vice President (Organisations) UNYA</i>	Harry Midalis (President)
<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>	Harvey Davies
<i>Honorary Secretary</i>	Kylie Kerin

#### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Joseph Caruso	Global Representative
Neesha Seth	Publications and Events
Tony McRae	
Jan Ryan	
Caroline Pembroke	
Joan Mann	
Gerry Georgatos	

#### ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

<b>Australian Asian Association</b>	Delegate: Radha de Mel
	Delegate: Dr Donald Chandraratna
<b>Esperanto League of WA Inc</b>	Delegate: Owen Loneragan
<b>National Council of Jewish Women</b>	Delegate: Ester Steingiesser

#### **Auditor**

Mr Geoffrey Rackham

# **United Nations Association of Australia (Western Australia) Organisational Report 2010-11**

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## **President's Annual Report**

It is with pleasure that I present the annual report for 2011.

### **Office relocation**

The UNAAWA office was relocated to the St. John of God serviced offices, Subiaco, in January 2011. The new office is close to public transport and provides a pleasant working environment for the volunteers. UNAAWA is most grateful for the efficient management of the premises by the receptionist, Lindsay Davies-Moore and the friendly support of the other tenants for the work of UNAAWA.

### **Office Volunteers**

The office is staffed by a group of dedicated volunteers. This year it has been a difficult year with the need for volunteers to assist with the move back into Claisebrook Premises and then the relocation to new premises. The disruption has required the volunteers to be flexible and adaptable.

The office volunteers are the public face of UNAAWA and in many instances provide the first contact with a new member or a member of the public. We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated volunteers that ensure the office is open each day and that the work of the committees continues.

Sincere thanks to Thiru Mungai and Curtis Clark who have taken on the responsibility of office management. Harvey Davies, treasurer, has dedicated many hours to the management of the finance of the association as well as the website and computer maintenance. Special thanks to Harvey. His workload increased considerably during the conference. Kylie Kerin, Secretary spent much time establishing a system for the recording and filing of correspondence and the establishment of the office. She has continued to complete her duties from a distance with the relocation of her employment.

### **Interns and Students**

UNAAWA has become a popular placement for Year 12 and University students. At present UNAAWA has a waiting list of students desiring to complete internships with UNAAWA. Each student completes a special project or task during their period with UNAAWA enhancing the work of the association.

### **Projects funded through Australian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Alliance**

Membership of the alliance has been most beneficial to the Association. Two amounts of funding have been received enabling the association to celebrate the centenary of International Women's Day by producing a cook book containing recipes from Immigrant and Refugee families. Further funding enabled the association to host the training course for Immigrant and Refugee young women at the beginning of July and assist with the graduation of the students on August 5<sup>th</sup>. At present we have an intern working on establishing a strong link with these young women and supporting the newly established Status of Women group.

### **Model UN Days**

Jan Ryan continues to work with UNYA to present model UN days. The days presented in 2010/11 have been generously funded by Graduate Women WA.

## **Book Club**

Harvey Davies and Nola Andrews have chaired a small group of enthusiastic readers who meet regularly to discuss books which particularly focus on human rights issues. Following the discussion participants enjoy a shared lunch. Other members, who are unable to attend, are invited to contribute comments through email.

## **Human Rights Committee**

This committee was ably chaired by Kylie Kerin, until her move from Perth and is now co chaired by Curtis Clark and Owen Loneragan. This committee was responsible for the presentation of the International Human Rights Day lecture in 2010, presenting UNAA President, Robert Hill. Work is underway to present the 2011 lecture in partnership with the Young Lawyers Committee of the WA Law Society. This committee also discusses current human rights issues and has worked on resolutions to be put before UNAA. Members of the group attend various events which deal with human rights issues and actively participate in the Perth Human Rights network.

## **The Environment Committee**

Paul Elkingham has become chair of this group which meets to discuss environmental issues and connect with the wider WA public with environmental concerns. A media statement was released to mark World Environment Day. The Status of Women committee: This committee has been recently re-established and is chaired by Neesha Seth. The committee will examine issues relating to women, in particular those of Immigrant and Refugee women and work closely with Sheila Byard, the UNAA Status of Women officer. A number of the members took part in the UNAA Status of Women meeting held on Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup> as part of the UNAA conference.

## **Yolande Frank Memorial Committee**

The 2011 award was won by a student from Parkwood Primary School, Si Yu Zhang aged 11 years. Si attends the Intensive English Centre and is a migrant from China. This year Western Australian children aged 9-14 were invited to illustrate article 3 of the Declaration of Human Rights. The fund continues to increase. The Association is keen to accept donations to the fund to ensure that the award takes place each year.

## **Constitution Committee**

As part of the strategic plan a committee was established to examine the constitution and consider revision. This is a work in progress and it is likely that constitutional changes will be put before the 2012 Annual General Meeting or at a special meeting.

## **Special Events**

### Migrants Day

This day was celebrated in December by a forum presenting three distinguished speakers and discussion with migrants and refugee families. It was decided to collect family recipes to produce a recipe book. The book was produced to celebrate the centenary of International Women's Day 2011. It featured a colourful cover using a photograph by Jessica Watts. The text was collated by

Damon Staples. The printing was made possible by funding from Australian Immigrant and Refugee Women's Alliance and Gudrun Solutions.

#### Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust

On January 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 UNAANA linked with the Jewish Council to mark this important International Day. A gathering was held at the Holocaust memorial in the Stirling Gardens followed by a reception at the City of Perth Council. The reception was hosted by Councillor Janet Davidson OAM.

#### International Women's Day

UNAANA hosted a corporate table at the International Women's Day Breakfast presented by UN Women. Senator Russell Trood joined the table. Russell was visiting UNAANA as part of the review he conducted into the operation of UNAA. During the day Russell met with many of the key stakeholders of the association and in the evening was entertained to dinner by the executive.

#### **2011 National UNAA Conference**

UNAANA hosted the 2011 UNAA National Conference August 4-7. The theme "Goals for Life" was developed by presenting a keynote lectures on each of the goals. The Status of Women meeting was held on Thursday afternoon. This meeting was opened by Hon. Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Women's Interests with a thought provoking talk on the status of women in WA. The meeting was attended by 30 women including some of the women funded to attend the conference by Lottery west from rural and remote areas of WA.

The Academic network met also on Thursday afternoon. The 20 delegates heard three experts. This meeting was chaired by Jan Ryan. The Gala Dinner was hosted by Diana Warnock, a strong supporter of the work of UNAANA. The guest speaker was Benson Saulo, Australia's Youth Representative to the UN.

#### **New Patron**

His Excellency Dr Ken Michael AC completed his term as Governor of Western Australia at the end of May 2011. His Excellency Malcolm McCusker AO QC has accepted the position of Patron of the Association.

#### **Progress Towards a Human Rights City**

Throughout the year, Jan Ryan and Judith Parker have been in discussion with Brad Pettitt, Mayor of Fremantle, and the city councillors encouraging the council to agree to proclaim Fremantle a Human Rights City. Although some progress has been made, a decision has not yet been reached.

#### **Auditor**

Mr Geoff Rackham has acted as Auditor to the association over the past three years. Mr Rackham has indicated that he must step down from the position after the 2011 audit. On behalf of the association I thank Mr Rackham for his expertise and timely advice to the treasurer particularly through the transition to GST registration.

I wish to thank all the members of the Executive committee for their commitment to the Association. It has been a privilege to work with you all.

It has been an honour to lead this vital association for the past three years and work with the dedicated team of executive members and volunteers. I wish the new President and committee well for the coming year.

Judith A. Parker AM DSJ

President



**AUDIT OPINION**

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INCORPORATED

In my opinion, the attached:

. Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011

. Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2011

truly reflect the financial activity and the financial year end status of the Association in 2010/2011.



G E RACKHAM

C P A

09-August-2011

**United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division)**  
**Statement of Income & Expenditure for the year ending 30th June 2011**

**Income**

Membership subscriptions		
ordinary	\$872.64	
concession	\$568.25	
family	\$318.15	
organisation	\$454.50	
	<u>\$2,213.54</u>	\$2,213.54
2011 National Conference		\$6,056.68
Bank interest		\$368.27
Donations to general funds		\$1,000.50
Fund-raising events		\$2,548.25
Furniture/equipment grant/sale/refund		\$2,137.84
History grant		\$880.56
Joint Project with AIRWA		\$4,330.00
Miscellaneous events		\$92.50
Office sales		\$47.28
Rent refunds		\$992.31
Strategic Plan grant		\$14,460.00
Yollande Frank Memorial Fund		\$1,170.20
		<u><u>\$36,297.93</u></u>

**Expenditure**

2011 National Conference	\$3,636.36
Bank charges	\$22.39
Computing and website	\$865.42
Federal UNAA levy	\$360.00
Fund-raising events	\$735.76
Furniture/equipment	\$1,875.49
Joint Project with AIRWA	\$3,527.79
Membership in other organisations	\$110.00
Miscellaneous event/committee expenses	\$77.19
Model UN (UNYA)	\$1,000.00
Office supplies	\$1,143.52
Petty cash	\$100.00
Phone	\$692.24
Rent and associated expenses	\$3,854.33
Strategic Plan	\$14,460.00
Yollande Frank Memorial Fund	\$418.77
	<u><u>\$32,879.26</u></u>

**Surplus**

\$3,418.67

**United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2011**

	30-Jun-2010	30-Jun-2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets		
BankWest cheque account	\$84.11	\$7,354.25
BankWest telenet saver account	\$10,246.61	\$6,614.49
Total Current Assets	<u>\$10,330.72</u>	<u>\$13,968.74</u>
Non-current Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
GST credit	\$322.00	\$3,072.13
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><b>\$10,652.72</b></u>	<u><b>\$17,040.87</b></u>
 <b>Liabilities</b>		
Unpresented cheques	\$50.00	\$0.00
GSTdebt	\$35.00	\$3,054.48
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u><b>\$85.00</b></u>	<u><b>\$3,054.48</b></u>
 <b>Net Assets</b>	<u><b>\$10,567.72</b></u>	<u><b>\$13,986.39</b></u>
 <b>Members' Funds</b>		
Opening Balance	\$3,918.06	\$10,567.72
Current Year Surplus	\$6,649.66	\$3,418.67
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>	<u><b>\$10,567.72</b></u>	<u><b>\$13,986.39</b></u>
 <b>Allocation to Special-purpose Funds</b>		
Model UN funding	\$4,000.00	\$2,900.00
Joint Project with AIRWA		\$802.21
Yollande Frank Memorial	\$1,616.45	\$2,707.32
2011 Conference	\$730.00	\$3,150.32
	<u>\$6,346.45</u>	<u>\$9,559.85</u>
 <b>Remaining Members' Funds</b>	<u><b>\$4,221.27</b></u>	<u><b>\$4,426.54</b></u>

## Treasurer's Comments

The office moved in January from Claisebrook Lotteries House (CLH) in East Perth to the St John of God Serviced Offices in Subiaco. CLH was refurbished in 2010 and we bought new furniture using a grant from LotteryWest. However there were serious problems with CLH and we decided to seek alternative accommodation. The new Subiaco office is much better, yet cheaper. Note that the total cost of rent, phone, computing and website is only \$4419 in 2010/11 compared to \$5867 the previous year. (However this is also partly due to the rent refund of \$992 for the period when we had no office during refurbishment.)

Lotterywest also funded a Strategic Plan.

General fundraising events in 2010/11 raised \$1812 compared to \$4680 the previous year (all from a quiz night).

The balance sheet included in the 2009/10 annual report omitted GST credit from assets and GST debt from liabilities. After the AGM these were calculated to be a GST credit of \$263 and a GST debt of \$35. This information was mailed to the auditor. However we failed to inform the auditor that this figure for GST credit was later found to be incorrect. The corrected figures submitted to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) were a GST credit of \$322 and a GST debt of \$35. These figures were accepted by the ATO which paid us the net credit of \$287.

The financial situation will be much clearer after the 2011 National Conference (hosted by UNAABA on 4-7 August) income and expenditure has been finalised.

Harvey Davies  
Honorary Treasurer

## Human Rights Committee Report

The UNAAWA Human Rights Committee provides passionate and relevant services to the local community through candid and focused collaboration in our monthly meetings and events in the community. We raise awareness amongst UNAAWA members and the wider community about issues of social justice and human rights. We host guest speakers at our Committee meetings who provide us with information on particular human rights issues. We facilitate events in partnership with other community groups, celebrating human diversity and generating discussion about human rights.

In 2010 the UNAA passed a resolution proposed by UNAAWA's Human Rights Committee to reduce the rate of indigenous incarceration in Australian prisons. We subsequently opened lines of communication with local government Ministers and we aim to see changes implemented to support the resolution. In 2011, the Human Rights Committee instigated UNAAWA proposing a resolution to UNAA regarding the perception and treatment of migrants and refugees in Australian society, particularly the media. The UNAAWA Executive Committee dedicated themselves to creating a relevant and challenging resolution, raising awareness of these issues with a Letter to the Editor of the West Australian Newspaper.

### *Annual Human Rights Day lecture*

The 2010 Human Rights Day lecture was presented by Professor Robert Hill, current UNAA President, about achieving global justice for all. He inspired questions and discussion amongst audience members following the event and challenged us to remember that we can all be human rights defenders – that it only takes one person to inspire a movement for change. In 2011, UNAAWA partners with the Young Lawyers Committee of the WA Law Society to present the Human Rights Day Lecture. The lecture will be given by Dr Michael Ondaatje about the relevance of the United Nations to the younger generations.

### *Other projects*

In 2010, UNAAWA celebrated International UN Day. Guest speakers enlightened those gathered and shared personal experiences, observations and visionary goals promoting the valuable work being done around the world that supports the United Nations mission. In late 2010, AIRWA and UNNAWA united migrant and refugee women in WA's community to share their stories and experiences of coming to WA. They provided their treasured family recipes for a published recipe book, which is available for purchase from UNAAWA.

In 2011 the Human Rights Committee researched and published a fact sheet for publication and distribution regarding the specifications about Taser weapons and police powers to use them. Discussions continue to publish a fact sheet about refugees and asylum seekers, in an effort to dispel myths and disseminate accurate information. Negotiations continue with the City of Fremantle to develop Perth as Australia's first Human Rights City, and we continue to develop new partnerships in the WA community to engage in and advocate for human rights issues.

We warmly welcome you to join us - bring your project ideas, or your thoughts for discussion at meetings. I look forward to continuing this good work with you all!

Kylie Kerin  
Chairperson, Human Rights Committee

## **Summary of Reports by Mr Joseph Caruso – Global Representative October 2010 to July 2011**

**During the 2010 – 2011 year, Mr Joseph Caruso, in his capacity as UNAAWA Global Representative issued the following reports in addition to undertaking certain duties:**

### **United Nations Day October 2010**

It was with great pleasure that Mr Caruso presented a Report to Members on this very important day. Mr Caruso was unable to attend the function but in his Report, asked the Members to pause and reflection the United Nations 189 Member States which have pledged to development programmes into the new millennium.

### **Remembrance Day November 2010**

It was with pleasure that Mr Caruso attended for the 10<sup>th</sup> year, the Dawn Service at the Kings Park War Memorial on 11 November 2010 on behalf of UNAAWA. On this occasion, Mr Caruso was privileged to meet with the Patron of UNAAWA, His Excellency Governor Michael who asked Mr Caruso to convey his best wishes to all the Members of UNAAWA.

### **United Nations World Aids Day December 2010**

Mr Caruso conveyed the message in this Report that UNAIDS acknowledged that HIV infections are declining and that fewer people are dying from AIDS. In this Report, Mr Caruso also acknowledged and thanked everyone, especially the Volunteers for their continuing dedicated work for UNAAWA.

### **Australian – African Business Council Special Breakfast for Africa And the Commonwealth Nations December 2010**

It was with pleasure that Mr Caruso attended, by invitation the Australian – African Business Council Special Breakfast and met with CHOGM VIP's, in particular with Ms Mmasekgo Masine-Mnamha – the Deputy Commonwealth Secretary. Mr Caruso also made reference in this Report to the Perth Agenda of CHOGM for October 2011.

### **United Nations World Water Day March 2011**

This was Mr Caruso's first Report for 2011. As a Member of International Water Desalination Association and International World Water Aid, Mr Caruso has attended many International Conferences and Workshops which address the need for water to a growing world food shortage. In this Report Mr Caruso advised that water has now been classified as United Nations Human MDG Right.

### **Meeting with UNAAWA Patron the Hon Governor Dr Ken Michael April 2011**

It was indeed a pleasure that Mr Caruso met with the Hon Governor Dr Ken Michael and his Private Secretary Mr Kevin Skipworth at Government House. Mr Caruso also informed the Governor and the UNAAWA Executive in this Report that he had also attended the CHOGM Briefing and advised the way forward for UNAAWA to participate in this important event.

### **ANZAC Day April 2011**

It was with pleasure that Mr Caruso attended the Dawn Service in Harvey due to work commitments in the South West at that time. Mr Caruso's message in this Report was to the young who are the leaders of tomorrow and for them to continue in the spirit of their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents in the rally for freedom and the Australian way of life that the Anzacs made possible.

### **United Nations Environment Day June 2011**

Mr Caruso presented this Report to UNAAWA, his message in this Report was protecting our environment is our core and first fundamental principle in moral, ethical and social value. Mr Caruso went on to say, your heart will allow you the feeling, your mindset will allow you to make the decision and your actions will impact on the world that we wish to save for our future generations. A very powerful message.

### **United Nations World Population Day July 2011**

Mr Caruso gave current statistics of the World Population. Mr Caruso said in this Report that we all need to reach out to each other, either as individuals, organisations or Governments for the next global debate and besides discussing Peace, we should begin discussions on how the world is going to feed itself in the decades to com.

## Grants Report

### *(i) Past Presidents document*



During the year, the City of Perth kindly donated \$969 to assist with the costs of copying and printing the UNAAWA Past Presidents & Life Members publication. This is an important historical document which celebrates the dedication of many remarkable individuals to the community and civil society. It also portrays the strength and vibrancy of UNAAWA. Copies of the document were provided to all delegates at the UNAA National Conference. The Association gratefully acknowledges the City of Perth's support with this endeavour.

### *(ii) Furniture*

In December 2010, Lotterywest approved a grant of \$1,920 for the purchase of furniture for the UNAAWA office. This enabled the Association to buy office equipment such as desks, chairs, a bookcase, filing cabinet and wireless router.



### *(iii) Strategic Planning*

Funding of \$14,460 was received from Lotterywest to conduct a strategic planning exercise during 2010/11. This process was undertaken under the guidance of WACOSS Consultant Kathryn Choules. The strategic plan sets out the Association's vision for the future and the actions required to achieve the goals. It focus on the next few years in terms of objectives, tasks, responsibilities and outcomes. In particular, the plan considers how UNAAWA should consolidate our areas of strength and how we may grow in the future through increased membership, fundraising, partnerships and sponsorships. We look forward to the contribution of members in implementing the plan.



### *(iv) Attendance of Rural Delegates to National Conference*

In June 2011, Lotterywest approved a grant of \$4963.73 to help 10 rural delegates from not-for-profit community organisations to attend the UNAA National Conference. The places were promoted via local papers, radio and by email. Applications from around the State were received and attendees agreed to pass on their knowledge from the Conference to their community and local organisations. Organisations represented included the Australian Breastfeeding Association, Girl Guides WA Inc, Country Women's Association of WA and the Rural Medical Family Network. Very positive responses about the Conference were received from the rural delegates and the Association was delighted with the strong contribution of the delegates to the Conference proceedings.

The support of Lotterywest in assisting UNAAWA with its various initiatives is most gratefully acknowledged. The contribution of various Executive members to the grant applications process is much appreciated. These efforts form a critical component of the grants process.

Carolyn Gatward  
Vice-President representing Ordinary Members

## Environment Committee Report

The Environment Committee has kept a strong and steady interest in the state of the Marine reserves, the water/rainfall situation, the problem of nuclear waste disposal, and of course the International Year of Forests.

Thanks mostly to Aleisha Marie Caruso and Carolyn Caruso, we have kept a presence at the forefront of initiatives with regard to the whalesharks, the Tasmanian Devil and closer to home, with the woylies.

Links with Perth Zoo, through consultation with Wayne Walters, has seen our ideas for The International Year of Forests, take shape in the form of an interactive Website, where children and young people from all over the Planet can record details of the trees and forests in their regions on Facebook.

Thanks to Climate Change, something very evident to those who live in the bush or on the fringes, we have not been ready to plant again, but this year looks quite good so far for rainfall, so hopefully we can consider next year (2012)

We were most fortunate to have Curtis Clark as our acting Convenor for a few months. Curtis' wealth of knowledge about the UNAA, and the local scene, has brought us some very interesting contacts. Sadly, Curtis has had to take time off for health reasons, but Paul Elkington of DJ Carmichael has taken over.

The Committee members are very happy to welcome Paul, and look forward to getting to grips with some important environmental actions, once the all important Australian Conference is over.

As this is the last occasion we will have Dame Judith Parker as our President, all members of the Environment Committee wish to express thanks for her valuable interest and advice. Thank you Judith, and our very best wishes for your future.

Also, farewell to Bernie and Lesley Keen, who are taking time out, but who assure us that they will be available for tree-planting as soon as we have a good enough winter season to warrant it. Many thanks for all your wonderful help.

To all the loyal and valuable members of the Environment Committee, a great thanks from us to us, for all your work, and support, and for being a sincere, intelligent and environmentally proactive group of people with whom it is a pleasure to work.

Caroline Pembroke  
Environment Secretary to the Executive Committee.



## International Day of Remembrance of victims of the Holocaust

This year the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27<sup>th</sup>, was marked at the Holocaust Monument in Perth, in a partnership between the United Nations Association of Australia, National Council of Jewish Women of Australia and the City of Perth.

The Holocaust Monument sits just inside the entrance of the Stirling Gardens, at the corner of St Georges Terrace and Barrack St. Small and unobtrusive, it commemorates the tragic loss of the millions of victims of Nazi oppression and systematic extermination. One side bears the following inscription:

“First they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not Jewish.  
Then they came for the Communists and I did not speak out because I was not Communist.  
Then they came for the Trade Unionists and I did not speak out because I was not a Trade Unionist.  
Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me.  
- Pastor  
Niemoeller”

Judith Parker, read out a message from Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General, stating that this year’s observance will focus on the theme “Women and the Holocaust: Courage and Compassion”, and will pay tribute to the bravery and ingenuity of the women who faced Nazi persecution with strength and dignity during the Second World War. “Jewish women performed truly heroic deeds — in the face of danger and atrocity — they bravely joined the resistance, smuggled food into the ghettos and made wrenching sacrifices to keep their children alive. Their courage and compassion continue to inspire us to this day,” said United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.’

The ceremony continued with a reading of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm and the Memorial Prayer by Rabbi Coleman, followed by the traditional Mourners’ Kaddish.

Adina Lieblich then spoke movingly of her connection to the Holocaust, she spoke of her grandfather and his brother, sole survivors of their extended family. So she told us of the unspeakable ordeals they suffered, including their separation and the miracle of finding each other again after the War.

After the ceremony Councillor Janet Davidson hosted a lunch for those in attendance. At the conclusion, Rabbi Coleman spoke of the horrors that must never be repeated, and particularly of the importance of family in ensuring the survival of society.

A Monument such this is important to remind the world of the Holocaust. In the words of Ban Ki-moon, “The United Nations was created in hope — and hope is what it stands for to this day. On this occasion of solemn remembrance, let us remember that. Let us work together to make the United Nations all that it can be, all that it must be — a force for democracy, a champion of freedom, a lamp for human dignity, human rights and human aspiration. Above all, let us renew our collective determination to never allow such a terrible passage of history to happen again. Never”

Ester Steingiesser (NCJWA WA)

## Yolande Frank Memorial Award 2011

This year for the second time we invited WA Schools to participate in the Creative Expression of the Declaration of Human Rights, in memory of Yolande Frank.

Yolande Frank was a long time member of United Nations Australia Association WA Division and survivor of the Holocaust who died in 2009. She had a passion to ensure that the children of WA should understand importance the Declaration of Human Rights. The idea was for every year to choose another article from the Human Rights declaration as an inspiration for the art design.

The inaugural award in 2010 was won by Amanda aged 11 years from Rossmoyne Primary School.

This year we chose Article 3 of the Declaration as the basis for the children work.

***Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.***

The award is open to children aged 9 to 14 years at the date of the award.

For this year we prepared teacher's education kits and they were available from UNAAWA free of charge.

The prize is a cheque for \$200 and book presentation for the artist and a cheque for \$100 to the school library to purchase teaching aids or books focusing on Human Rights Issues.

Entries can be submitted in the form of drawing, painting, collage, screen print, charcoal, water colour or pastels. The winning entry remains the property of UNAAWA.

The award was announced on Friday August 5<sup>th</sup> 2011 at the National Conference of United Nations Association of Australia, held in Perth

All children who enter receive a participation certificate. This year's Judges were Diana Warnock, Owen Loneragan (UNAA WA) and Louise Nidorf (NCJWA WA)

Ester Steingiesser - NCJWA (WA) – July 2011

## AIRWA-IWD Events Report

UNAAWA received funding to celebrate International Women's Day from the Australian Immigrant and refugee Women's Alliance. The funding of \$3000 was shared between UNAAWA and Ethnic Community Services WA.

UNAAWA sent out a call for recipes from Immigrant and Refugee families living in WA. The result was a unique collection of recipes complete with stories from the families about the circumstances of their journey to WA. The aim had been to include 100 recipes however this proved difficult as it seems that family recipes are precious and many families were hesitant to share the recipes. However many did share the recipes and the publication proved to be a unique collection.

One of the UNAAWA members Damon Staples spent many hours collating the recipes and arranging the text. Another member, Jessica Watts produced a photo for the cover.

The book was sponsored by AIRWA and Gudrun Enterprises and was launched at the ECCWA celebration at the Perth Town Hall by Dame Judith Parker, an Ambassador for International Women's Day. Complementary copies were distributed to all families who had contributed to the publication. Further copies are on sale for \$11 from the UNAAWA office.

The association has continued its link with AIRWA by conducting a training course for Immigrant and Refugee young women early in July. The trainees were aged 18-30. The training course was held over 3 days and presented by 3 trainers from Canberra and Adelaide. The course aimed to empower the young women to increase their employment and training potential and encourage their involvement in the community. The graduation from the course took place as part of the UNAA Conference. The ceremony was held at the metro Hotel in the presence of Maria Osman, Director of the Dept. of Multicultural Interests and Hon. Liz Behjat MLC. The young women have joined the women's committee of UNAAWA. One participant won the AIRWA award to attend the UNAA Conference.

UNAAWA looks forward to continuing the contact with AIRWA.

Judith Parker  
President

## 2011 UNAA National Conference Planning Committee Report

The conference was held August 4-7 2011 at the Metro Hotel Canning Highway South Perth. The theme was "Goals for life" and examined the progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Goals. The keynote address was presented by Christopher Woodthorpe, Director UN Information Centre, Canberra. Christopher gave an overview of the goals and information about the summit held in New York, late in 2010, examining progress toward the goals. Speakers addresses each of the 8 goals on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August interactive workshops were held to discuss individual goals and decide on positive strategies that delegates could implement in their local area to ensure success of the goals.

The Saturday Panel, chaired by Joseph Caruso, UNAANA Global Representative consisted of 3 speakers:  
Benson Saulo: International Year of Youth  
Claire Patterson: International Year of Chemistry  
Cliff Morris: International Year of Forests

The Gala dinner, hosted by Diana Warnock, a long time supporter of the work of UNAANA was attended by 72 delegates and guests. The menu followed a WA theme. The guest speaker was Benson Saulo, Australia's Youth Represented to UN for 2011. He discussed the significance of the Millennium goals to the youth of today.

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August two important meeting were held. The Status of Women meeting and the Academic Network. The status of Women meeting was chaired by Sheila Byard and opened by The Hon. Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Women's Interests. The academic network was chaired by Jan Ryan, Past President of UNAANA.

The National meeting of UNAA was held at the Subiaco offices of UNAANA on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August. This meeting included discussion of the review of UNAA conducted by Russell Trood, the election of office bearers for 2011/12 and discussion of resolutions. Carolyne Gatward was elected as a Vice President of UNAANA. Judith Parker was awarded a UN Medal in appreciation for her work for United Nations over a number of years.

UNAANA is indebted to a hardworking team which made up the planning committee. Many meetings have been held, detailed planning took place. So many people contributed to bring about a very successful conference and National meeting. The support of various sponsors enabled the committee to present the conference charging a low registration. Funding from Lotterywest enabled 10 delegates to attend from Rural and Remote regions of WA. Funding from AUSAID enabled 4 delegates to attend from the pacific: Samoa, Tonga, PNG and Vanuatu.

We can all be justly proud of the achievement.

Judith Parker  
Chair of the 2011 UNAA National Conference Planning Committee

## UNYA (WA) Report to unaa agm

### organisational report

**Name:** Harry Midalia  
**Date:** 19th June, 2011

### Introduction

The 2010-2011 UNYA WA year has been a solid year of achievement for the division. This year we consolidated and grown our major events, seen an expansion in our peripheral events and activities and through it all we have worked well as a team to achieve our goal – educating and empowering young people in line with the ideals of the United Nations. These achievements deserve celebration and reflection, and that is what this report aims to do. Enjoy reading it!

### The executive

The executive for 2010-11 was as follows:

<b>President</b>	Harry Midalia
<b>Vice President (Administration)</b>	Ilona Quahe
<b>Vice President (Hammaraskjold Trophy Competition)</b>	Callum Davidson
<b>Vice President (State Conference)</b>	Christiaan Gerritsen
<b>Policy</b>	Julia Crandell
<b>Education</b>	Bodie D’Orazio
<b>Media, Communications &amp; Membership</b>	Sam Spilsbury
<b>Regional</b>	Ruth Collins
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Daniel Kirkby

The UNYA WA executive for 2009-2010 co-opted an office bearer. The social activities officer holds a very important positions on the executive but does not yield voting power. In 2011 the social activities officer was Lily Hands.

<b>Social Activities Officer</b>	Lily hands
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The Executive was labelled the “dream team” by former National President Henny Smith, and worked so well together to achieve the goals of the division and convene excellent events. Congratulations to them!

### state conference

In 2011 State Conference was expertly convened by Christiaan Gerritsen for the second year in a row.

The conference took the form of a weekend-long camp at the Ern Halliday Recreation Camp from February 25-27<sup>th</sup>. This marked a change in venue from the usual Serpentine Camping Centre. The change in venue was largely a positive development – there was more space and much nicer facilities compared to Serpentine. The accommodation costs are also cheaper, and the staff easier to deal with. However, the change in venue there were several problems. First and foremost is the problem of delegate supervision – delegates were much harder to supervise in this new space, particularly as facilitators were generally unfamiliar with the location. This can be overcome easily with more vigilant supervision and should be a priority for future state conferences. The other major

problem was that catering costs are hugely expensive compared to Serpentine. This can be overcome with a larger degree of 'self-catering' and better pursuit of sponsorship (financial and in-kind). Overall these problems were handled well, and the financial problems were resolved. Ern Halliday has been booked for 2012.

State Conference took the theme of "Achieving Global Progress" which allowed delegates to pursue issues such as the Collective Action Problem and apply them to real situations including Climate Change, Refugees and Economic Co-operation. The delegates were engaged and intelligent and explored these issues through excellent workshops, discussions, the Hypothetical Speakers Panel and model UN debating. Youth Motion and Youth Change were also successes, with the Youth Motion ending up as a very impressive document. There were problems in the Youth Motion process, which must be more clearly fleshed out in future years. In addition, Youth Change needs to have a more tangible outcome if it is to be effective.

The social side of State Conference was a great success, with two hilarious mock-newsletters being released (one on each morning), Friday Night Games and the Super-Fun Delegate Dance. Many facilitators did a fantastic job of socializing with delegates, but this is always an area that can be improved.

Delegate numbers were lower than previous years, due in large part to the earlier date of the conference. This has been resolved for 2012, with State Conference occurring later in the year. There were also problems selecting the UNYC delegation due to a large number of pull-outs required CRC to reconvene. However, ultimately a great delegation has been put together for UNYC in July.

Overall, the conference was an enormous success and the credit must go to Christiaan who lead the division through what was a difficult State Conference.

### **The Youth Motion Launch**

Youth Motion Launch was continued in 2011, building on the successes of its inaugural occurrence in 2010. Held a week after State Conference on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March, this event formally hands over the Youth Motion document to government. In attendance were the Hon. Robyn McSweeney, Minister for Youth, Chris Tallentire representing the Opposition and the Hon. Alison Xamon representing the Greens.

The major problem with the event was poor attendance by the delegates and a very unprestigious venue. These issues need to be resolved, as this event has the potential to be UNYA (WA)'s flagship public event. Hopefully, with the appointing of Sam Spilsbury to co-ordinate this event in 2012 (the appointment was made in May) appropriate planning will be put in place to make this event truly excellent.

### **hammArskjöld trophy competition**

The Hammarskjöld Trophy Competition (HTC) was convened expertly by Callum Davidson. Callum was dedicated to maintaining the professional and serious nature of debate and providing an amazing experience for all the delegates involved. Over six metropolitan rounds and one regional round in Bunbury, delegates engaged in high quality debate and negotiation. At all times, facilitation was conducted with a high degree of professionalism.

Particular strengths of the 2011 HTC included a high quality of resolutions, delicious catering and very professional-looking materials.

The major weakness of HTC was a continuation of problems with the Geraldton round. Yet again it was cancelled due to lack of delegate interest and poor communication with schools in Geraldton. We remain convinced in the value of regional HTC rounds and committed to the revival of the Geraldton Round. The problems can be overcome with

earlier school contact and more engagement with regional schools regarding how to MUN. As HTC will inevitably be later next year due to a later State Conference (HTC will most likely be in term 2), this will be easier!

The final of HTC was held on May the 6<sup>th</sup> at Parliament House and was of a very high standard. The presentation evening held at the UWA Watersports Complex was also a great success, and five amazing teams have been selected for Evatt in December.

Financially, HTC remains the cash cow of UNYA (WA). Having a later competition, with even more teams and delegates, will only help to improve this and ensure the continuing sustainability of UNYA (WA).

Congratulations to Callum for a very successful 2011 HTC.

### **Metro Day forum**

On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October, UNYA (WA) held a year 10 day forum at UWA. The topic was “Access to Education” in line with our policy topic for 2010-11. The forum was very well organized by Sam Spilsbury and Daniel Kirkby, and featured great workshops and excellent speakers: Nathen Fair and Lizzy Lang.

Attendance was very low, which is in line with previous years. This was a combination of bad timing and confusion as many schools now change year groups in term 4. This could be fixed by marketing it as a ‘junior school day forum’ open to years 8-10.

Nevertheless, the day forum provided the first major opportunity for the executive to work together on a project and was a great experience for those who attended.

### **executive positions**

#### **policy**

Julia Crandell has lead the division on the Policy campaign for 2011 – Access to Education. This topic, largely focused on Indigenous Australians, allowed delegates and members to investigate the issues faced with access to education by disadvantaged groups, including Indigenous Peoples and refugees.

This topic was particularly relevant to our target – youth. Education makes up an enormous part of life for young people, yet many “typical” UNYA delegates are unaware of the problems facing disadvantaged groups in Australia in accessing quality education. Focused on education as a fundamental human right, the topic allowed an exploration of school retention and educational outcomes, which was enlightening for many of us.

The topic was explored through a series of events, including a “pizza and policy night,” the metro day forum and an amazing speakers panel. The panel was a particular highlight, with an incredible quality of speakers and wonderful questions from the audience.

WA represented nationally, frequently drawing praise from national Policy Vice-President, Anthony Antioch, as the best-planned and most interesting policy campaign nationally. Julia’s focus on educating youth about the issues at hand allowed policy to have a tangible outcome for the first time ever. By incorporating the policy theme into core events and regional road trips, Julia was able to achieve results. We must remember that UNYA is first and foremost an organization aiming to educate youth, and this should be a goal for all future Policy officers.

Despite this, however, there remain some problems with Policy. These are largely recurring problems of: advocacy and achieving change. UNYA’s largest problem remains a lack of focus in how we go about doing policy, and this will hopefully be improved with a renewed nationally-streamlined policy focus over the next year. There is still much room for policy to grow, with advocacy remaining the key area for improvement.

## **education**

The education portfolio handles UNYA's core role of educating young Western Australians about the issues, national and international, that affect them. This involves co-coordinating and managing visits into schools and overseeing all the educational material used at UNYA events – an enormous task.

This year, Education was managed by Bodie D'Orazio. Bodie did a great job in overseeing the creation and quality of educational materials used at day forums, state conference and HTC. All of the materials used at these events were of a particularly high quality and were of great benefit to the delegates.

WA ran a school visit late in the UNYA year to Warnbro Community High School. This was very exciting, as it was a new school for UNYA in a very different socio-economic area than what we are used to. These sorts of endeavours must be encouraged in the future. The primary area for growth in this portfolio lies in school visits. The Education officer into the future must actively pursue school visits, as they are a quick, easy and effective way of promoting UNYA's agenda (they also have the potential for financial payoff, as most schools are more than happy to make donations).

## **media, communications and membership**

MCM is a huge portfolio. This year, Sam Spilsbury acted as MCM officer for UNYA WA and his skills and knowledge of all things technological was of great benefit to the division. Sam dealt with schools lists, membership lists, the website, facebook, twitter and UNYA's online presence very effectively.

The primary area for growth for the next MCM is expanding UNYA's online presence. This is particularly important since the implementation of the national rebrand. Facebook and twitter must be utilized more frequently and effectively in order to get UNYA out into the community, and the website must be more frequently updated.

In order to achieve this, the lines of communication between the MCM and others must be better managed. Conveners and executive members must be in more frequent contact with the MCM officer for changes to the website, and all of the executive should have access to UNYA's online media. Expanding our online presence remains the challenge, and this must be effectively addressed in the next UNYA year.

## **regional activities**

This year has seen a continuation of UNYA (WA)'s excellent regional engagement programme. Ruth Collins, as Regional Engagement Officer, lead the division on trips to Geraldton and, for the first time ever, Broome. Using funding obtained by UNYA national allowed these trips to occur with no cost to the division. UNYA remains committed to engaging with regional delegates, believing they are just as capable and reachable as delegates in the metropolitan region.

The trip to Broome was a particular highlight for the division. For the first time ever, UNYA (WA) members engaged with the far north of the state, visiting schools, community centres and the University of Notre Dame campus. Broome remains an area with huge potential for growth in activity, and it is feasible that we could run a regional conference there, drawing in delegates from Broome, Port Headland, and surrounding Indigenous communities. Spaces in the UNYA delegation could be reserved for



outstanding delegates. If this is to go ahead, it will require early planning, and remains a medium-long-term goal of the division.

## **WATMUN**

In cooperation with UNAA (WA) and their IPP Dr Jan Ryan, UNYA (WA) again ran a tertiary Model UN. The Western Australian Tertiary Model United Nations (WATMUN) was run at Edith Cowan University in Mt Lawley, over the course of a whole day. Students enrolled in a Human Rights unit engaged in model-Human Rights Council debates on the topic of Asylum Seekers. Debate went very well and was facilitated professionally by 8 UNYA members. As has been usual in previous years, UNYA invoiced UNAA for the sum of \$1000 as payment for facilitation. Tertiary Engagement outside of WATMUN and UNYA (UWA) remains an area for potential growth in the division.

## **youth representative**

Western Australia, despite promoting the Youth Representative position effectively, had only one candidate go through to the interview stage of Youth Rep selection. This candidate was enormously suited for the role, yet was unsuccessful in getting the position.

Youth Rep Benson Saulo visited Perth immediately after his appointment, and a lack of communication meant he did not engage with the division. This is enormously disappointing as it means that, for two years in a row, UNYA (WA), one of the largest and strongest divisions of UNYA, has not engaged with the Youth Rep.

This harks at the need for Youth Reps to be advised as to the importance of consulting with the Western Australian division. It also reveals weaknesses in the current Youth Rep model, where physically travelling around the country is still a requirement imposed on Youth Reps, despite its debatable status as the most effective way to engage with young people across Australia.

Benson is hopefully returning to Perth in August 2011, and better communication should facilitate some joint initiatives.

## **UNYA (UWA)**

UNYA WA has maintained a sub-division at the University of Western Australia, as a club affiliated with the Student Guild, since 2006. In 2008, members of the WA division revitalised UNYA (UWA) and brought the sub-division forward to the point where it won Best PAC (Public Affairs Council) Club at the end of the year.

Under the leadership of Lewis Richards, the club has thrived, putting on great social events and planning the flagship event – the Kofi Trophy. In a surprising AGM, all four key positions in the club were filled by non-UNYA (WA) members. This is both wonderful and problematic.

It is definitely a positive as it means the club is functioning autonomously and independently, and drawing new people into UNYA. The four executive members are all keen and competent and are doing a great job of running the club. However, it poses problems for the integration of UNYA (UWA) and UNYA (WA). In light of this, it is perhaps a good time to consider the role of UNYA (WA) in UNYA (UWA) affairs, and

review the arrangements between these two organizations. Ideally, they would function independently, support each other and maintain constant communication. In addition to this, the club should be a great way to draw new members into UNYA (WA), and the way in which this can be done needs to be fleshed out.

### **Conclusion**

It has been a busy and exciting year for the organization. We were able to maintain our core events and membership, as well as expanding our periphery events and activities. UNYA is a diverse organisation made up of incredible, dedicated and talented young people. There is always room for growth and improvement, and the coming year should put that to the test. We remain committed to the task at hand – education, and empowerment of young Western Australians.