

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America
A PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION





About the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) is one of the largest and most active chapters of the United Nations Association of the USA. UNA-NCA is a grassroots membership organization that reaches out to national and local citizens, opinion leaders, and our government to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations and promote constructive U.S. leadership in an effective United Nations.

We use our unique position in the nation's capital to inform, inspire, and engage people through a wide variety of outreach, education, and advocacy programs. UNA-NCA has been an active force in our community since it was established in April 1954. Through these years, UNA-NCA has proven it is a reliable organization, devoted to promoting constructive U.S. engagement in the United Nations. We keep our constituents informed about global issues and the linkages between those issues and the communities where we live. UNA-NCA never waivers from its mission to educate, mobilize, and inspire Americans to support the principles of the United Nations.

UNA-USA formed a strategic alliance with the UN Foundation in 2010. Together they bring the largest network of Americans in support of the UN.



UNA-NCA staff and program assistants (from left) Jessica Zaqueu, Roveiza Irfan, Kimberly Sandhu, Paula Boland, Kayleigh Arslan, Karen Mulhauser, Brian Johnston, Jill Ruchala, Gena Magill, Shirin Rateshtari, Kate Wichmann

A Letter from UNA-NCA

President Karen Mulhauser



The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) has had a year of challenges and opportunities. Though the slow economic recovery tests UNA-NCA's ability to sustain programs, I remain optimistic that with our capable staff and dedicated volunteers, we are positioned to meet the challenges and take advantage of the many opportunities ahead of us.

Constructive U.S. engagement and full funding with the United Nations are central to the UN's ability to maintain its multilateral leadership in its initiatives for peacekeeping, humanitarian aid, development, education, human rights, and many other global concerns. To this end, UNA-NCA has worked collaboratively with the Better World Campaign (BWC) and the UN Foundation to inspire Americans to support the principles of the United Nations. Fortified with recent bipartisan polls showing eight in 10 American voters want the United States to maintain an active role in the UN, we will mobilize advocacy within our three jurisdictions (D.C., Md., and Va.) as well as activate our Advocacy Corps to work with the BWC and other UNA chapters to continue to bring our message to Congress.

We have had exceptional growth and success with our Global Classrooms® DC (GCDC) program that culminates with our annual Model UN conference hosted at the U.S. Department of State. GCDC brings the values of a strong U.S. position in the United Nations to the next generation. It provides quality curriculum, resources, and support to D.C. area teachers and their students, reaching over 2,800 students this school year.

We have also had excellent membership growth, have broken several recruitment records, and now are the largest UNA-USA chapter. Building our organization's capacity is perhaps our greatest challenge as our successes have proved more than our human and financial resources can sustain. With your commitment, I have confidence that membership will continue to grow and our quality education and advocacy programs will be enhanced.

We are grateful for your ongoing and much-needed support to help maintain the important work we do.



Karen Mulhauser, President, United Nations Association of the National Capital Area



Programs: Global Classrooms® DC

Global Classrooms® DC (GCDC) is the lead education program of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area and is a part of the Global Classrooms® initiative of the United Nations Association of the USA to bring Model United Nations (Model UN) to students who would not otherwise have such opportunities.



GCDC has grown significantly in the 10 years since it was formed, expanding from an initial 16 schools in the 2003-2004 school year to 83 school groups in 2011-2012. Fifty participating DCPS schools were at the elementary and middle school levels, representing the largest increase in teacher and administrator interest and youth participation in GCDC history. More than 2800

students were touched by GCDC curriculum or events this year, with more than 2500 from D.C. Public Schools. About 900 of these students participated in special hands-on events such as GCDC's full-day youth conferences on global issues at the State Department and the Pan American Health Organization or through the school-responsive programming Collective Visioning and Courage at Jefferson Academy and Clean Water Access and Advocacy at H.D. Woodson Senior High School.

GCDC continued its partnership with the DCPS Embassy Adoption Program and Washington Performing Arts Society which helped GCDC connect more D.C. young folks with global education opportunities than ever before. The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting

partnership brought engaging speakers and first-rate images to three major youth events, connecting GCDC students to photography and writing from the field to build understanding on our four Topics of Focus (see box).

The GCDC Youth Team of middle and high school interns has been busier than ever, actively supporting curriculum design, event logistics, and communications. At the same time, Youth Team members also have been published on Huffington Post, garnered major college scholarships, tweeted about topically relevant resources, and served as Model UN committee staff! The Youth Team also publishes the GCDC Advocate newsletter, a great monthly curriculum supplement that links to online resources and local events.

Model UN Trainer volunteers from The George Washington University staffed activities and regularly visited six participating schools. Our volunteer program for adult professionals welcomed more than 100 volunteers to support relevant and exciting learning for area students.

Our participating teachers and facilitators work to bring the best active and inspirational learning opportunities to their students. Their commitment spans the academic year, as they incorporate GCDC curriculum and activities into their classrooms and after-school or lunch clubs. Many teachers find that after GCDC students become more likely to chase them down in the hallway to talk about current events and global issues!

2011-2012 GCDC Topics of Focus

Human Rights of Migrant Workers (UN Human Rights Council)

Child Soldiers (UN Children's Fund)

Metals and Mining (UN General Assembly)

The Situation in Colombia (UN Security Council)

Programs:

Global Classrooms® DC



GCDC Spring Model UN Conference Highlights

May 1, 2012 at the U.S. Department of State and Pan American Health Organization

- 33 Schools participated: 17 high schools and 16 middle and elementary schools
- Over 600 students registered, including two delegations from Ghana and Nigeria
- Keynote address by Ronan Farrow, Special Adviser to the Secretary of State on Global Youth Issues
- Nine Youth Committees convened, discussed, debated, and passed resolutions on the Topics of Focus (see box)
- Secretary-General Samantha Brew from McKinley Technology High School emceed Opening and Closing Ceremonies in the State Department Dean Acheson Auditorium
- The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and the UN Information Center supported youth and teachers with special programming on committee topics
- The Washington Performing Arts Society helped bring DCPS Embassy Adoption Program teachers and 6th grade students to the event and announced the winners of their country poster contest
- More than 80 adults volunteered on conference day to help with registration, lunch, committee support, and research library stations



GCDC High School Topic Conference: Focus on Child Soldiers

By Eliisa Carter, GCDC Youth Team Member



December 15 at 9:30 am marked the beginning of an educational and cooperative day where students exercised public speaking and problem solving skills. "I am young, I am powerful, right now!" was echoed throughout the Pan American Health Organization by numerous high school students from the Washington D.C. area. This quote from the opening ceremony, given by UNA-NCA Director of Global Education, Jill Ruchala, provided the incentive for students representing many international stakeholders' viewpoints on the global issue of child soldiers.

The opening ceremony also included Emily Heron, a George Washington University graduate student, who provided an overview of the issue and photographer Andre Lambertson who recalled his experiences of befriending former child soldiers in Liberia.

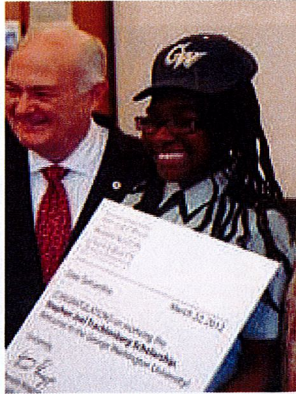
Students from five secondary schools (Ballou Senior High School, Dunbar High School, The Lab School of Washington, McKinley Technology High School, and Winston Churchill High School) said that the UN simulation was one of the best parts of the experience. The in-depth debate on child soldiers gave students a chance to distinguish between governmental policy decisions, national civilian debates, and their personal stance on the matter.

The facts provided by the guest speakers at the ceremony and the information attained from the GCDC curriculum aided students in an active moderated caucus. The conference on child soldiers not only provided information on the issue, but also exercised students' global awareness, communication, and problem solving skills.

Eliisa Carter is a junior at Albert Einstein High School.



Programs: Global Classrooms® DC Young Professionals



Samantha Brew receiving scholarship award from George Washington University President, Steven Knapp

Samantha Brew from McKinley Technology High School participated in GCDC for three years and served as Secretary-General at UNA-NCA's 2012 Spring Model UN Conference at the State Department. She has also won one of nine prestigious Trachtenberg Scholarship Awards to attend The George Washington University! It is a full four-year scholarship, including tuition, room, board, books, and more (worth approximately \$250,000).

Samantha has been participating in GCDC Model UN since her sophomore year when she represented Turkey. Her experience shaped her career plan to become a human rights prosecutor: "I want to be able to represent those people who don't have any representation. I found out that 525,000 people were trafficked through Turkey every year – it blew my mind. From that moment on, I knew I had to do something about it ... [Model UN] helps develop awesome com-

munication skills and helps us learn how to network and negotiate with our peers ... It helped me connect and get to know people."

Samantha credits GCDC with guiding her toward international affairs and international law, as well as improving her public speaking. She and her family thank the GCDC team and everyone at UNA-NCA, with an extra-special thank you to GCDC team member Gena Magill who coordinates our GCDC youth team, for her continued mentoring support during the application process. Samantha is just one of the thousands of students who benefit from the GCDC program. She hopes that others will join Model United Nations and contribute to the efforts of Global Classrooms DC: "Getting this opportunity in high school is amazing; you get to put your ideas out there, it's a very unique experience."

Young Professionals



UN Student Representative Christina Beasley introducing speakers at a UN Month Event

UNA-NCA Young Professionals (UNA-NCA YP) seek to engage young professionals in discussions of international affairs, while also emphasizing the importance of multilateral cooperation and the UN. UNA-NCA YP members are typically between the ages of 21-40 and are a diverse group of individuals from the fields of business, law, government, nonprofit, the arts, and philanthropy. UNA-NCA YP provides an exciting opportunity to interact with like-minded individuals and gives young professionals from all walks of life a unique forum in which to learn more about current international issues, the UN, and the work of UNA-USA.

As a result of UNA-USA's alliance with the UN Foundation, the Young Professionals for International Cooperation (YPIC) re-

branded to Young Professionals based on new guidelines from the National office. While several UNA-NCA YP members successfully transitioned to the full UNA-NCA Board leadership, the UNA-NCA YP Executive Committee continued to focus on outreach and committee retention to meet the growing needs. Active UNA-NCA YP committees include: Asia-Pacific, International Economic Development, International Law, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Middle East. UNA-NCA YP is always looking for dedicated young professionals who are seeking leadership opportunities and are interested in building their skill set on the executive team or with a regional or issue focused committee.

Programs:

Young Professionals



2011

October: The UNA-NCA Young Professionals hosted a successful International Career Dinner series during UN Month 2011 where UNA-NCA YP was able to recruit the largest number of new members registering at a UNA-NCA event in recent history. Attendees began the evening at a networking reception followed by intimate, themed dinners. Dinner topics included: women in international development, international organizations, peace and security, international economic development, international advocacy, and international non-profits.

Young professionals from various backgrounds, career fields, and educations took part in this participatory event where they not only met their distinguished dinner panels, but they were provided an opportunity to network with other young professionals who shared similar interests.

In addition to the Career Dinners, several UNA-NCA YP committees planned events for UN Month: The UNA-NCA YP Middle East Committee hosted an evening event entitled Women in the MENA Region: Socio-Economic Issues in the Current Climate. The UNA-NCA YP International Law Committee, in collaboration with the general UNA-NCA International Law Committee and the American Bar Association Section of International Law, hosted a panel discussion entitled Legal Issues Facing the United Nations – Reflections from Three Years as Legal Counsel with UN Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs, Patricia O'Brien.

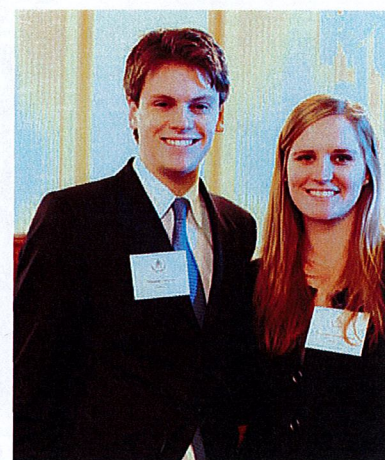
2012

May: The Young Professionals arranged another successful International Career Dinner series in May 2012. More than 50 guests convened at a Capitol Hill reception where Rodney Bent, Director of the United Nations Information Center in D.C., delivered a keynote address on his international experience in the public and private sectors. Dinners were then hosted at private homes throughout D.C., with topics focused on careers in international peace building, international organizations, and women in international affairs.

UNA-NCA YP also hosted a Networking Happy Hour at Café Citron in May, giving young professionals the opportunity to mingle with each other and learn about UNA-NCA activities. A portion of proceeds from Café Citron's signature "Peace Keeper" drink was donated to UNA-NCA.

June: UNA-NCA YP is cosponsoring a happy hour with UNA-USA that is part of the national office members annual meeting.

UNA-NCA YP is looking forward to hosting more happy hours and re-launching its bi-monthly, brown bag Lunch & Learn series. In the upcoming year, UNA-NCA YP will work closely with college and university groups and will work with UNA university students to further university outreach.



Young professionals at the Human Rights Luncheon



Events:

Human Rights Luncheon

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area commemorated Human Rights Day with its annual Human Rights Luncheon on Capitol Hill. The event honored Professor Thomas Buergenthal with the UNA-NCA Louis B. Sohn Human Rights Award and Zainab Salbi with the UNA-NCA Perdita Huston Human Rights Award for their extraordinary commitment to human rights. In addition to the main awardees, five members of the D.C. community were recognized with UNA-NCA Community Human Rights Awards.



UNA-NCA Executive Director Pula Boland, Thomas Buergenthal winner of Louis B. Sohn Human Rights Award

Over 180 members and supporters of UNA-NCA gathered in the Cannon House Office Building, Caucus Room on December 8. The luncheon commenced with welcome remarks by UNA-NCA President Karen Mulhauser, who introduced the program participants and recognized the recent passing of Board Member and Human Rights Luncheon Chair, Richard Griffis (see tribute).

Steve Knapp, President of The George Washington University, introduced the Louis B. Sohn Human Rights Award honoree, Thomas Buergenthal. Thomas Buergenthal is a Professor of Law at George Washington Law and has a long career as a judge at both the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, where he also served as president. Professor Buergenthal expressed his admiration for his mentor and friend, Louis B. Sohn, and discussed how this student-teacher relationship inspired him to dedicate his career to international law and human rights. Buergenthal's address left the audience with the opportunity to reflect on the importance of recognizing those who inspire them to work toward justice.



UNA-NCA President Karen Mulhauser with Zainab Salbi, winner of the 2011 UNA-NCA Perdita Huston Human Rights Award

Cindy Dyer, Human Rights Director at Vital Voices Global Partnership, introduced Zainab Salbi for the Perdita Huston Human Rights Award for her commitment to women's rights. Zainab Salbi is the founder and former CEO of Women for Women International and has dedicated her life to working with women of war-torn zones. Ms. Salbi gave an inspiring speech noting her belief that to be an effective advocate for human rights, it is important to have an emotional connection with those whose human rights are compromised.

Our Community Human Rights Awards are given annually to individuals who are nominated by the D.C. community for their outstanding commitment to human rights. This year's awardees were Mary C. Cogar of Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma, Billie Day of League of Women Voters for District of Columbia, James N. Ellenberger of AFL-CIO Retirees Association, Ashley McSwan of Our Place D.C., Aileen Pisciotta of the American Bar Association Section of International Law, and Annette Lantos of Citizens for Global Solutions. Annette's late husband, former Congressman Tom Lantos, received the Louis B. Sohn Human Rights Award in 2001. UNA-NCA Executive Director Paula Boland and former UNA-NCA Human Rights Luncheon Chair John Salzberg presented these awards to each honoree.

In closing, UNA-NCA Executive Director Paula Boland took a moment to recognize the importance of human rights and having such events as this luncheon. She emphasized the necessity to recognize the outstanding and inspiring work of others.

Tributes

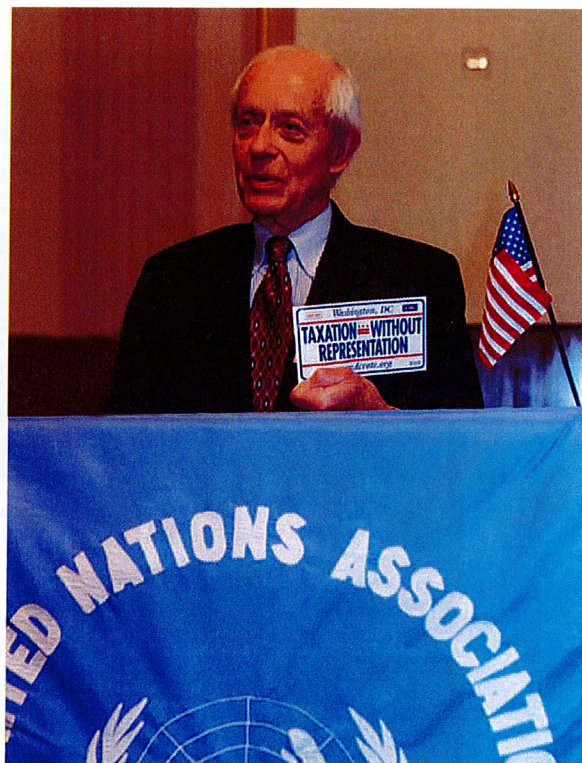


Richard Griffis **December 6, 2011**

In 2011 a dear friend, extraordinary human being, and human rights leader died of a massive stroke. Richard Griffis will be missed by all who knew him.

Richard's passion and dedication to working for human and civil rights for all people will be especially missed at the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area where he was a longtime board member, served as Vice President for Finance and Programs, and was the Chair of the Human Rights Committee. Richard was the force behind the concept and organization of the Annual Human Rights Luncheon.

Richard was a retired minister in the United Church of Christ. He and his wife Anne have been active in the UNA family, first in the Connecticut Chapter, then with UNA-NCA after Richard and Anne moved to Washington, D.C. in 2003. Richard and Anne always offered their genuine caring and encouragement to others. They have been among the first to volunteer to lead causes and address specific human rights concerns. Richard always found ways to involve young leaders and engage them in ways that allowed them to both demonstrate their strengths and grow even stronger.



Richard Griffis

Dr. Alan Francis Geyer **November 28, 2011**

Dr. Alan Francis Geyer died at age 80 on November 28, 2011. Among his many capacities, he served as Director of International Relations for the United Church of Christ, based at the Church Center for the United Nations (1965-68). He was Dag Hammarskjöld Professor of Peace Studies and Political Science at Colgate University in New York and founding director of its Peace Studies department (1972-77). He was chair of the U.S. Observers at the 1975 and 1980 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review conferences in Geneva and participated in the UN Special Sessions on Disarmament. He was active in the UNA-NCA his whole adult life, leading its Advisory Council and facilitating collaborations with the National Cathedral in peace and justice programs. Dr. Geyer will be missed by many in the UNA family.

Frank Kameny **October 11, 2011**

UNA-NCA mourns the loss of Frank Kameny, a D.C. activist for the LGBT movement. He was a winner of the third annual Cornelius R. Alexander Jr. Humanitarian Award in 2010 given by D.C.'s Office of Human Rights and D.C. Commission on Human Rights on the occasion of the 2010 UNA-NCA Annual Human Rights Luncheon. Kameny was a pioneer for gay rights, a D.C. hero who even has a street named for him, and a great humanitarian. He will be greatly missed and always remembered.



Committees:

Sustainable Development



Sustainable Development Committee

The Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) promotes awareness, understanding, and support of issues and actions related to climate change and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) including: ending poverty and hunger, universal education, gender equality, child health, maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, and environmental sustainability. The SDC restructured in 2011 and the new co-chairs set a priority to build a long-term sustainable development programming strategy and increase professional networking within the community.

2011

September: The SDC hosted a presentation and book signing with author John N. Morfaw. Mr. Morfaw spoke about the key points in his new book *Project Sustainability: A Comprehensive Guide to Sustaining Projects, Systems, and Organizations in a Competitive Marketplace*.

October: The SDC organized the UN month event, *International Cooperation and Sustainable Resources in Today's World* at the George Washington University.

The also SDC hosted a joint networking mixer with the D.C. Net Impact Professional Chapter, a professional association focusing on sustainable business practices.

November: The SDC launched its official LinkedIn page and began sending emails to interested participants on global sustainable development.

2012

In 2012, the SDC continues their monthly happy hours and discussions through their LinkedIn Group *UNA-NCA Sustainable Development* with networking opportunities to share information about area events, jobs, and resources. The SDC plans to hold events this calendar year focusing on green jobs and the link between technology and sustainability.



David Andrews and Florence Rolle at UNA-NCA UN Month event titled International Cooperation & Sustainable Resources in Today's World

Committees:

Peace and Security



Peace and Security Committee

The Peace and Security Committee (PSC) promotes the core principles of the UN concerning the peace and security of the global community including over 100,000 UN peacekeepers serving on approximately 14 worldwide peace operations. The PSC also examines U.S. policy toward the UN's initiatives ranging from field support, police missions, mine action, environment, and sustainability.

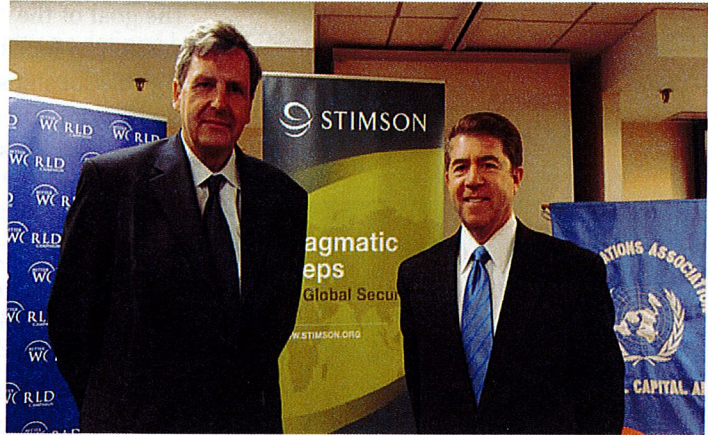
2011

This year proved to be the strongest year for the PSC in UNA-NCA. The PSC hosted more events than ever before and gained more sponsorships.

May: In honor of the International Day of Peacekeepers, Ambassador Lincoln Bloomfield, Jr, Stimson L. Center Chair, discussed with Alain Le Roy, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping, the role of peacekeeping operations in the world today, as well as other topics related to international peace and security. The event was co-hosted with the Better World Campaign and the Stimson L. Center. Ambassador Le Roy also conducted meetings at the Department of State, and the National Security Council as well as Congressional meetings on Capitol Hill. The day concluded with a reception on Capitol Hill where several countries were acknowledged for their support to peacekeeping missions.

October: The PSC organized a panel discussion titled The UN: Working for Women on the 11th anniversary of UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security.

October: The Peace, Security, and Roma in Europe event raised awareness for the Roma's ongoing struggle for equal rights and opportunities. The Roma are often called Gypsies. The event was co-sponsored by the Atlantic Council.



UN Under-Secretary-General Alain Le Roy with Ambassador Bloomfield

2012

PSC's goals for 2012 are to further organize, involve, and grow our membership base including the development and distribution of a periodic newsletter and continuing to host at least one event per quarter. PSC plans to continue having forums similar to the already successful Ambassador Series Program.

Additionally, the PSC will have a new committee page on the UNA-NCA website. The PSC page will feature useful information, a calendar of events, and other useful tools that will allow committee members to stay connected.



Jud Nirenberg, Cynthia Romero, Daniel Nadel at the UN Month event Peace, Security, and the Roma in Europe



Committees:

Advocacy

Africa Affairs

UNA-USA Advocacy Mission

“To educate, mobilize, and inspire Americans to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations, to strengthen the United Nations system, and to press for constructive United States leadership in that system.”

Advocacy Committee

The goal of the Advocacy Committee (AC) is to fulfill UNA-USA’s advocacy mission by focusing on congressional office visits on Capitol Hill and sustaining relationships through follow-up meetings to increase effectiveness. AC issues prioritize congressional funding for UN peacekeeping, UN dues, and U.S. foreign assistance related to the UN’s Millennium Development Goals.

2011

October: The AC met with Congressional staff and presented an independent, non-partisan survey commissioned by the Better World Campaign which indicates that 86% of voters support a strong UN-U.S. relationship. The AC summarized the importance of paying dues on time and in full to improve U.S. influence across the globe and to support the democratic principles upon which the U.S. and the UN were founded. The UN’s role in international security and the cost savings of using UN peacekeepers rather than U.S. troops was highlighted.

2012

April: A successful advocacy training with Maryland members took place at the Potomac Community Center.

The AC plans to offer training to Maryland and Virginia UNA-NCA members through Make a Difference: Advocacy 101 training events. The AC will reach out to members via social media, happy hours, and other events. The AC will focus on informing constituents of in-district meetings and developing strategies to engage members of Congress who are less likely to support UN- U.S. relations.

Africa Affairs Committee

The Africa Affairs Committee (AAC) strives to educate the members of the Association as well as the general community about issues pertinent to the African continent by addressing the educational, cultural, political, and social issues affecting these countries. The aims and objectives are to support the principles of the UN through a series of lectures, meetings, and social activities while bringing together a community of Africans and non-Africans interested in working on issues related to Africa.

2012

February: In honor of Black History Month, the AAC gave awards of recognition to Barbra Lee and Rosa Whittaker at the event titled African American Women in Global Affairs. Africacare was a cosponsor.

June: The event The Hopeful Continent: Can Sustained GDP Growth in Africa Lead to a New Future? was cosponsored by the Africa Society.

The AAC is planning events on South Sudan and a Nollywood night.



Awardees Congresswoman Barbra Lee and former US Trade Representative for Africa Rosa Whittaker at an event co-sponsored by Africare commemorating black history month.

Committees:

Human Rights

International Law



Human Rights Committee

The Human Rights Committee (HRC) promotes human rights as defined by the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including specific recent concerns for the rights of women and children, international labor rights, and the issue of congressional voting rights in the District of Columbia. HRC is responsible for soliciting nominations and recommending a nominee for the Louis B. Sohn Human Rights Award given annually at the Human Rights Day Luncheon on Capitol Hill.

2011

The HRC and USAID's Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP) hosted an event Commemorating 30 Years of HIV/AIDS and the Elimination of Mother-To-Child Transmission.

The HRC and MCHIP also presented a panel discussion at the UN Foundation on Oil of the 21st Century: Water Scarcity and Global Impact.

December: Unfortunately, the HRC lost its Chair, Richard Griffis, in December (see tribute). Richard Griffis will be missed by all who knew him.

2012

The HRC is remaining active while searching for a new chair. The HRC plans to host events around the topics of refugees, women's rights, access to clean water, and workers rights. The preparations for the 2012 Human Rights Day Luncheon are already underway.

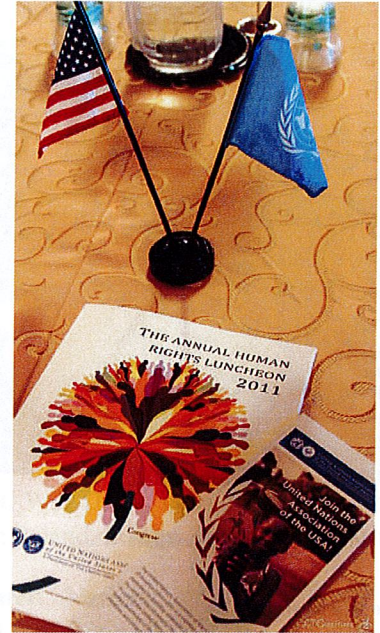
International Law Committee

The International Law committee (ILC) fosters dialogue concerning the UN and its role in international law issues. The ILC covers a wide range of topics related to the UN and International Law, including the International Criminal Court (ICC) and U.S. policies, and seeks to advance and promote the work of the UN via events and other awareness-raising activities.

2011

A wide range of opportunities for U.S. lawyers to engage in careers in international law and international commercial practice were discussed at Careers in International Law.

October: At Legal Issues Facing the United Nations-Reflections from Three Years as Legal Counsel, Patricia O'Brien, UN Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs, addressed the importance of the principles of the rule of law embedded in the UN Charter and spoke about the role of her office in supporting international efforts in developing a culture of accountability for international crimes, especially through the ICC.



Under-Secretary-General Patricia O'Brien At UN Month Event: the Legal Issues Facing the UN-Reflections from Three Years as Legal Counsel



Communications Membership



UNA-NCA Lifetime Members

- Sophia Austin
- Anne Bryant
- Emily L. Carnes
- Katherine M. Cave
- A. Edward Elmendorf
- Evelyn P. Falkowski
- Margaret W. Fisher
- Werner Fornos and Moen Gross
- Carol Popper Galaty and Gill Hill
- Anne Hale Johnson
- Raoul Kulberg
- Elizabeth J. Latham
- In Hoi Lee
- Princeton Lyman
- Sarah and Marsh Marshall
- Tobia and Linda Mercurio
- Robert and Catherine Miller
- Joseph Moss
- Seamus Phan
- Laughlin Phillips
- Edward Rawson
- Nadia Saad
- Walter Sargent
- David and Michelle Scheffer
- Florence Pepper Schott
- Robert J. Swope
- Kent and Doris Watson
- April Wong

Communications

UNA-NCA leaders and the Communications Committee have worked together to focus our messaging platform and branding. Once again, Ogilvy PR Worldwide has been integral in this progress. As a result of the UNA-USA and UN Foundation alliance, all UNA chapters have been given striking new membership brochures. UNA-USA is in the process of a web redesign that extends to the creation of web templates to be used by all the chapters.

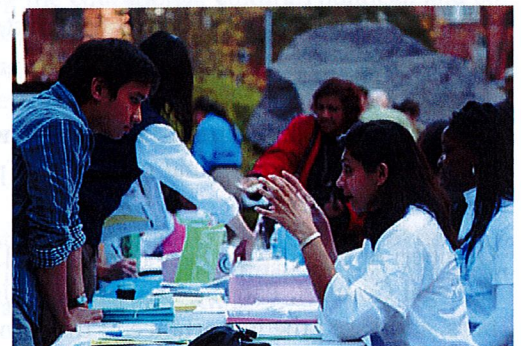
At communication strategy meetings in the spring, we began a communication outreach strategy for the GCDC Spring Model United Nations conference at the State Department. The campaign was extremely successful and helped GCDC receive media coverage from various media outlets for the first time.

Concomitant with the messaging progress, we have begun the formation of a new social media plan. We are building upon the social media outreach of last year and trying to further integrate with the ever growing and popular Facebook and Twitter social platforms. With this, UNA-NCA has taken the next step in expanding our public outreach and some committees have created web and LinkedIn pages. A survey to members has been sent out recently to better utilize our social media tools.

Membership

Last year proved to be a year of record-breaking membership growth for UNA-NCA positioning it again as the largest chapter of UNA-USA ... and we've broken several UNA-NCA membership recruitment records in the process. We established a new record of 119 for most members in a single month (UN Month in October), our fall Young Professionals Career Dinners signed up the most members for one event, and February saw the most members in one day. Despite this significant growth, retention continues to be a challenge and deserves priority attention.

We're also pleased to announce the commencement of our new Ambassador Program with its inaugural Ambassadors Roundtable training session. UNA-NCA Ambassadors serve as official representatives in an enhanced volunteer capacity to support the mission of the organization in their day-to-day lives. Ambassadors are specially skilled and committed message-bearers who are also responsible for attending UNA-NCA events as a resource for attendees on our organization, advocacy initiatives, and membership.



Events:

United Nations Month



UNA-NCA started years ago celebrating UN Day, which grew into a week packed with events, then the “Week” was expanded to 10 days. This year, the celebration was extended to a full month! The staff and planning team upped their efforts and UN Month had over 20 successful events on a range of UN related topics. From happy hours to career dinners to Kennedy Center performances to panel discussions on women, international voting rights or water resources – UN Month had it all!

UN month is a time to appreciate what the UN does as a global organization focused on protection, aid, and preserving culture and history, while also realizing the role the United States plays in this critical organization. Many UNA-NCA members did advocacy work on Capitol Hill during UN Month to help support U.S. funding for the UN. UNA-NCA was happy to welcome over 100 new members during UN Month, which is a record for new membership.

The following are some brief summaries of two events about which UNA-NCA members were particularly excited:

Libya in Transition

The event was co-sponsored by the UNA-NCA Human Rights Committee and the U.S. Institute of Peace. The four panelists discussed the current situation in Libya and the implications of the approval of UN Resolution 1973. They covered the decision of the UN Security Council to intervene militarily and the weaknesses and challenges the National Transitional Council might face. The panelists acknowledge that Libya’s strength is its civil society and despite the need of the international community for mechanical support, the panelists agreed that change and success will occur as long as it comes from within Libya and its people.



(from left) A. Edward Elmendorf, Will Davis, Leila Mooney, Karen Mulauser, Patricia O'Brien, Paula Poland, Edison Dick

Legal Issues Facing the United Nations - Reflections from Three Years as Legal Counsel

The current UN Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Ms. Patricia O'Brien, shared her perspectives on the UN's advancement in international law and jurisprudence. Ms. O'Brien focused her remarks on the key role of the UN Legal Counsel to support the UN's mission for strengthening the rule of law, the pursuit of justice, and the determination to end impunity for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. Specifically, Ms. O'Brien underscored the importance of the principle of the rule of law, embedded in the UN Charter, as “without it, the lines between justice and tyranny can too easily blur or disappear altogether.” Ms. O'Brien also spoke in detail about the role of her office in supporting international efforts to combat impunity and developing a culture of accountability for international crimes, especially through the International Criminal Court (ICC). Indeed, she noted that the ICC is “the centerpiece of our system of international criminal justice.”



In Memoriam[†]

In memory of Andrew E. Rice[†]:

John W. Sewell

Paul W. McCloskey

William & Donna Robert

In memory of Alan Francis Geyer[†]:

A. Edward & Susan Elmendorf

Fredericka N. Berger

Tim Barner

Anne Hale Johnson

Lowell N. Pullen

Edithanna Nancy Lukens

Robinson G. Lapp

In memory of Art Johnson[†]:

A. Edward & Susan Elmendorf

Constance A. Morella

Lowell Street Investors

Alva Millan

Katherine Gold

In memory of Richard Griffis[†]:

A. Edward & Susan Elmendorf

Carole Mayer Conors

James E. Lake

Abigail A. Pereira

Charles Thomas Bradley

Joy Marie Floyd

Barbara J. Calvert

Elizabeth J. Latham

Maryann T. Fish

Billie Ann Day

Helen Latimer

In Honor

Beaty Family Fund in honor of Edison W. Dick

Legacy Circle Members (Planned Giving)

A. Edward Elmendorf

Emily L. Carnes

Markley Roberts

Andrew E. Rice[†]

Evelyn Falkowski

Richard[†] & Anne Griffis

Arthur Johnson[†]

Firoze & Susan Rao

Sarah Ann Corbett

Cherie Settle

George A. Garland

Tim Barner

Edison W. & Sally Sick

Karen Mulhauser

Timothy S. Wierzbicki

The late Arthur W. Johnson left UNA-NCA an unrestricted legacy gift of \$50,000 in 2011

Institutional Support

Baha'i Community of Rockville

League of Womens Voters DC

Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Marpat Foundation

Café Citron

Murry & Florence Schott Charitable Foundation

Calvert Group

Sister Cities International

Center for International Relations

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Community Foundation for National Capital Region

United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA)

Communication Workers of America

United Way of the National Capital Area

Dick Family Foundation

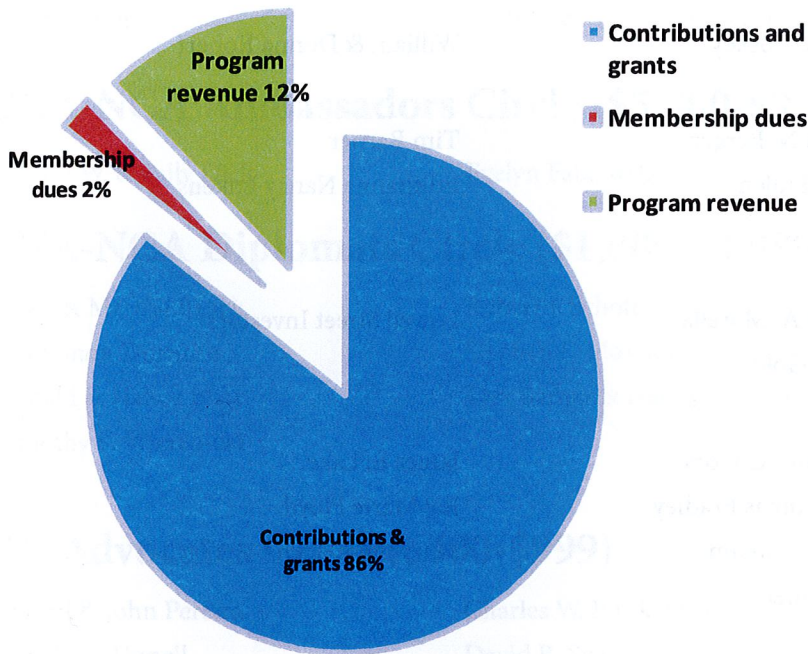
Webber Family Foundation, Inc.

Hattie M. Strong Foundation

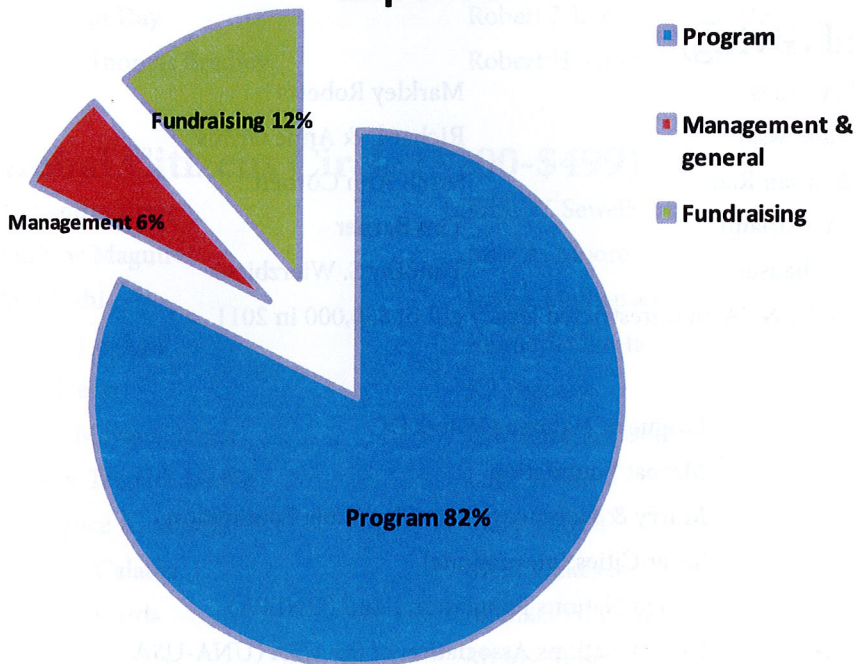
World Bank Community Connections Fund



Revenue



Expense



ASSETS

Cash and equivalents	53,985
Pledges receivable	5,932
Prepaid expenses	5,894
Investments	639,754
Fixed assets, net	
accumulated depreciation of \$22,577 and \$21,984 respectively	932
Security deposits	2,975
Total assets	\$709,472

LIABILITIES

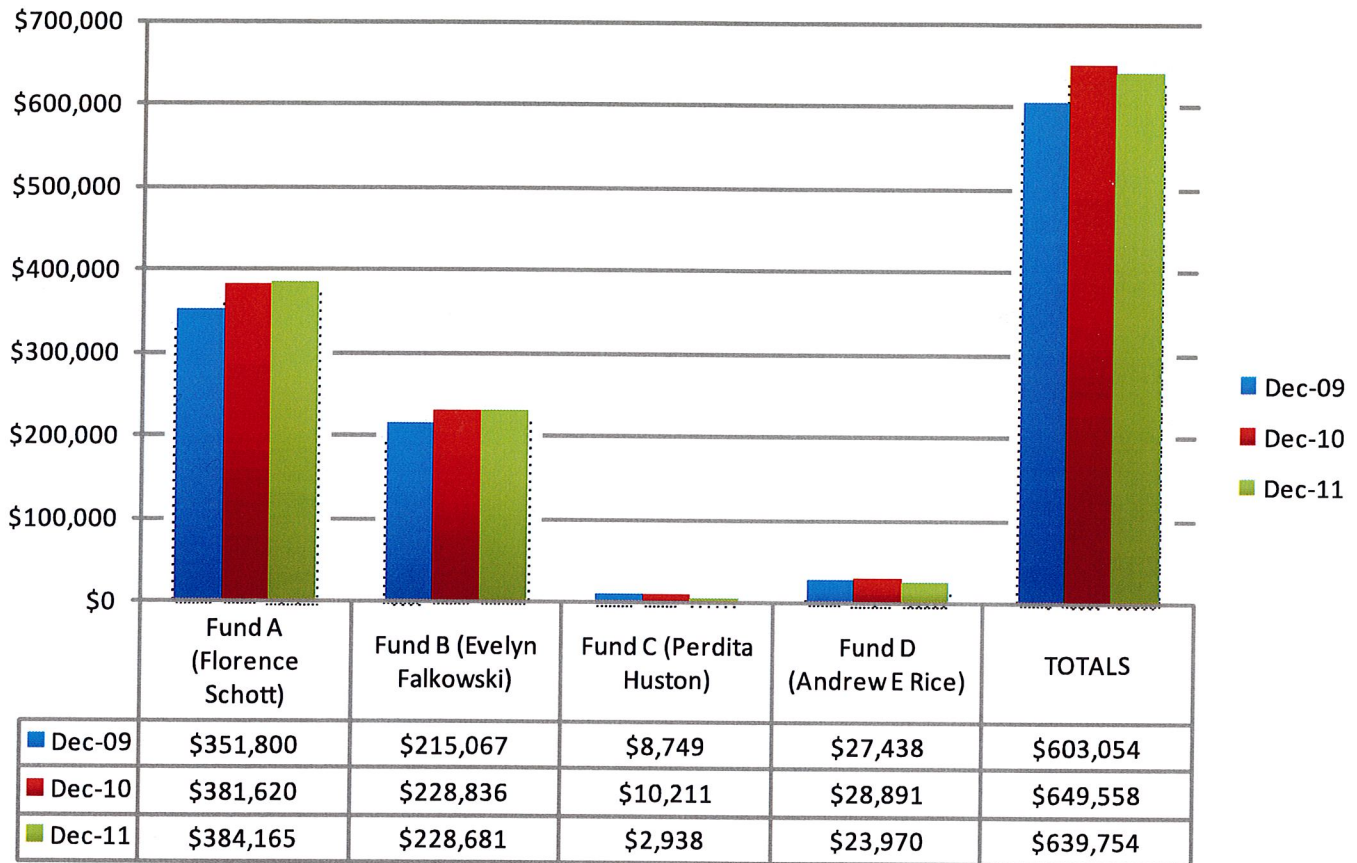
Accounts payable	\$18,525
Due to UNA-USA	4,185
Total Liabilities	22,710

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:	(100,911)
Undesignated	
Board designated	378,231
Total unrestricted	277,320
Temporarily restricted	347,859
Permanently restricted	61,583
Total net assets	686,762
Total liabilities and net assets	\$709,472



Endowment & Investment Funds



UNA-NCA Endowment and Investment Funds

The value of UNA-NCA investments recovered from the recession of 2007- 2008 but did experience a downward trend again during end of 2011. The following table gives the value of the investments for each of the three years 2009 -2011, as of December 31, 2011.

Fund A (Florence Pepper Schott Fund), Fund C (Perdita Huston Fund), and Fund D (Andrew E. Rice Fund) are invested in a diversified portfolio of domestic and some foreign stocks and bonds, chosen for both income and capital appreciation. Fund B (Evelyn Falkowski Fund) is invested in high-yielding securities intended to fund as much as possible of the rent of the UNA-NCA offices. Chosen to provide income, this fund cannot be expected to show significant appreciation. Nonetheless, the overall performance of all four funds in 2011 was gratifying.

Disbursements from these funds in 2011 to help meet operating costs, office rent, and our Global Classroom program, were \$50,051 (which includes the 5% annual support from Fund A.)



THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA

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