

## Passing on the baton



**Marco Moreas**  
UNYSA President  
2008-2009

**In late April a new set of Youth Councillors** was elected to lead UNYSA through 2009 and into 2010. An exciting event to be sure, but for me also a sad one: my term as Youth Council president has come to an end.

Leading the Council has been an enriching experience. I have thoroughly enjoyed representing UNYSA on the UNA-UK Board of Directors, in the process gaining first-hand insight into the governance of an energetic civil society organisation. I have relished my contact with UNYSA volunteer groups around the country as well as the chance

to work closely with the impressive individuals with whom I served on the Council.

Below you will find reminiscences from my colleagues on the outgoing Youth Council – their personal reflections on their time as leaders of UNYSA. On the page opposite you will find a photo of the incoming team. The next issue of the magazine will contain profiles of the new members.

Under this fresh leadership, UNYSA will no doubt continue to make swift progress. I wish the new Youth Council all the best for 2009-10!

## The year that was: reflections from the outgoing Youth Council

### Noorin Dahya, coopted member

Working side by side with my fellow Youth Council members has strengthened my belief that we really can make a difference. Being on the Council has allowed me to champion the causes I am passionate about, while giving me insight into the intricacies of diplomacy. I will miss being part of it but can't wait to see what our successors will achieve under the wing of UNA-UK.

### Tuuli Hongisto, Campaigns Officer

This year has taught me a lot. It was incredibly rewarding to be part of such a great team and to work on projects like the first European Model Arab League. Personally, I am most proud of my role in organising the UNYSA conference on water, development and conflict – which turned out to be a great success!

### Avnish Raichura, Education Officer

Serving on the Youth Council has been an inspiring experience. I am especially proud to have played a role in enhancing UNYSA's outreach to secondary schools. I hope that my successor will be able to build on my efforts and expand the education programme to cover all UNYSA branches.

### Luke Harman, Regional Development Coordinator

Working closely with branches to set up regional UNYSA 'hubs' in the South and North has been immensely rewarding. It has made clear to me just how much there is to gain by improving communication. By learning from each other's experiences, we can achieve the common goals that all UNYSA groups share.

**UNA-UK is offering subsidies to paid-up UNYSA members who wish to participate in Annual Conference**

To find out more, contact UNA-UK Membership Officer Rich Nelmes on [membership@una.org.uk](mailto:membership@una.org.uk)

**Setting up a new UNYSA group? Have a question about membership? Need resources for your freshers fair stall?**

For advice, contact UNA-UK Membership Officer Rich Nelmes on [membership@una.org.uk](mailto:membership@una.org.uk)

UNYSA  
United Nations Youth and Student Association



## Introducing the new Youth Council

From left to right: Hao Chen, Chris Day, Nick Boucher, Morris Marah, Pranav Sawhney, Sagal Ali, Alex Walton, Luke Harman



Photo © UNA-UK/Marcus Davies

### Leicester UNYSA impress in Mostar

We are proud to report that Magda Cheang, a law student from Leicester University UNYSA, was named best delegate at the 2009 'MOSTIMUN' – the Mostar International Model UN. Magda impressed judges through her performance in the model Human Rights Council. The award was presented by Christine McNab, UN Resident Coordinator for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

MOSTIMUN broke ground in two ways. It was Bosnia and

Herzegovina's inaugural university-level Model UN event as well as the first time a Leicester University delegation had travelled abroad for Model UN.

Leicester University UNYSA is already gearing up to take part in MOSTIMUN 2010. If you are a student at Leicester and are interested in being a part of the delegation, please contact Iva Angelova on [ia68@le.ac.uk](mailto:ia68@le.ac.uk).

To read Leicester UNYSA's full report of the conference go to [www.una.org.uk/youth](http://www.una.org.uk/youth).

# GLOBAL MODEL UN

5-7 AUGUST 2009, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Preparing student leaders to have a voice on international issues

The first annual Global Model UN Conference is being held this summer in Geneva. Organised by the UN Department of Public Information, the conference will concentrate on the following theme: 'The Millennium Development Goals: Lifting the Bottom Billion out of Poverty'. Students from approximately 70 countries will assume the roles of diplomats and represent countries in simulated sessions of the UN General Assembly and other UN bodies.

The UN is now accepting applications from university-level students aged 18-24 at the time of the conference. Applicants must have some Model UN experience and be fluent in English and/or French. The deadline is 20 May 2009.

An estimated one million students from around the world participate each year in Model UN simulations. Many of today's leaders – in government, law, business and the arts – took part in Model UN programmes during their youth.

'Forty years ago, my participation in a Model UN conference in Kyoto, Japan, inspired me to work on global affairs and try to make a difference in the world. It is our hope that the Global Model UN conference will build on lessons learnt and accomplishments of Model UN programmes worldwide to increase support for the United Nations' efforts to make the world a better place.'

Kiyo Akasaka, UN Under-Secretary-General for Communications & Public Information

To find out more and apply visit [www.un.org/gmun](http://www.un.org/gmun)

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