

From The President

Mory Fuhrmann
Acting Columbus Chapter President



I bet you were expecting to see Eddie's face here, reading about the latest ventures of the chapter. The old adage goes that nothing stays the same, and nothing is forever. That is also true for our chapter. Chapter President Eddie Pauline submitted his resignation from the Columbus Chapter, effective January 1. His company, Scout Media, offered him a tremendous promotional opportunity that was too good to pass up. Unfortunately, the position has taken Eddie to Scout's Seattle Office. So while we are sad to see Eddie go, we are happy for him to take this career opportunity, and you can rest assured that the UNA-USA Seattle Chapter has been made aware of his presence in the Sea-Tac area.

In the interim, I am serving as the Acting Chapter President until the annual meeting in May, when we will elect a new leader for the chapter. The nominations committee is hard at work to find capable personnel worthy of this and other positions of leadership within the chapter that I hope will continue to build upon our efforts to be a more proactive and visible presence in Columbus. Our organization has made some significant progress under Eddie's leadership, and I feel it is our responsibility to make sure his efforts were not in vain.

We are currently settling into the new office. Our new phone number is a recognizable one: 614-228-4010. Some may recall this was also our number during our last stay at 57 Jefferson. We are still unpacking, but expect to be up and running soon. I also wish to express thanks to Palmer and Barcy McNeal from the International Visitors Council for their kind offering of space and cooperative sharing agreement. I expect this arrangement will prove beneficial for both organizations.

Planning for the annual meeting is well under way. Membership VP Marissa Kaloga is heading the planning committee for that event, which will occur in mid May. The minutes of the 2005 annual meeting, along with the slate of officers, will be presented in the March-April newsletter. Additionally, Programs VP Simona Vaclivikova has been continuing joint-program efforts with the Columbus Council on World Affairs to present several YPIC events. Also underway is planning for the 2006 Columbus International Festival. The tentative theme is We Are All Family. Committee and subcommittee meetings are underway at this time.

We are very excited about the move back to 57 Jefferson, and it is our hope this will enable us to present more dynamic programming through cooperative agreements with other organizations in the Jefferson Center. As with Eddie, I welcome our general membership to contact us at any time. We are elected by and serve as the pleasure of our membership.

Best always.

UNOCHA Team Dispatched to Phillipines

UN Wire Report



The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is in the process of deploying a United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team to the Philippines, to strengthen the office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office in that country, as they respond to the mudslides caused by heavy rains.

At about 10:45 a.m. (02:45 GMT) on Feb 17, the landslide hit the village of Guinsaogon near the town of St. Bernard on the southern part of the island of Leyte in the Philippines. The national Red Cross, on the ground since 11 a.m., estimates an unconfirmed 200 dead and 1,500 missing, while the Philippines Office of Civil Defence estimates that up to 2,000 may have been buried by the landslide. In the whole village, only three houses are still standing. The rest of the village, including 300 houses and an elementary school, are completely buried in mud. As many as 251 school children and six teachers are believed to be trapped. Only 4 persons have been retrieved alive so far, according to the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent's (IFRC) Regional Disaster Management Unit in Bangkok. According to the Philippines Office of Civil Defence, seven people are currently being treated in hospital. Government search and rescue teams are at the site, but rain is hampering operations.

OCHA will release today a \$50,000 emergency grant to the Office of the Resident Coordinator for emergency response coordination.

The Philippines National Red Cross Society is providing 100 family tents, 300 blankets, five cartons of water purification tablets and 700 body bags. IFRC has provided \$200,000, but it has appealed for \$2 million.

An assessment mission to the affected area by Civil Defence authorities will leave tomorrow morning. A United Nations Country Team member will also join the assessment mission.

OCHA is in close contact with the Philippines Office of Civil Defence, Department of Social Affairs, United Nations Country Team and the OCHA Regional Office in Bangkok

CIF 2006 to Address Global Pandemic

*Marlinda Iyer, Ph.D.
V.P., Festival*

HIV AIDS has become pandemic in some parts of the globe. This disease not only has economic, social and political impact but it has affected every fibre of society in the afflicted countries in Africa. This is also the most prevalent disease currently plaguing the face of the earth, from Asia to Europe and in between.

Unless a concerted effort to contain this disease is methodically exerted, this disease will continue to spread. Unlike respiratory diseases, the spread of HIV AIDS is easier to prevent. To arrest its spread requires not only medication but also a good dose of education, social and personal changes. All Aspects of HIV AIDS will be addressed at the Columbus International Festival Health Fair. Education comes in the form of skits and dramatizations from a group of teenagers from the WAIT Team, some brochures and information packets, and counseling from the Ohio State University AIDS Task Force and the Columbus Health Department Sexual Health Unit. A very simple non-invasive screening test is even offered at no cost at the CIF Health Fair for those who want to find out if they are infected or not. Results are confidential. Counseling is treated with the utmost confidence and sensitivity.

HIV AIDS screening is only one among the many free screening tests offered at the Columbus International Festival Health Fair. Diabetes, Bone Density, Body Mass Index, Body fat, Hearing, Vision, Chiropractic Alignment, and Blood Pressure checks are some of the screenings offered. Participative Fitness Routines such as Yoga, Tai chi, Jazzercise, Low Impact Aerobics, Pilates, Dancercise and even Belly Dancing as a form of exercise are also offered. Total health and fitness for individuals and families are emphasized through education and demonstrations. Alternative medicine such as acupuncture, transcendental meditation, massage therapy, stress management, herbal medicine, and music therapy are even covered. Information on community health at a sliding scale and free clinics are given for those who need them. All these services are offered at no cost. We hope to be able to offer immunizations in the future with sponsorships and grants.

Mapping the human genome has shown that we are all one human family no matter our culture, color or creed so there is nothing more common globally and internationally as keeping the human body healthy. This is in fact the scope and concern of the World Health Organization (WHO), which is a very vital United Nations Agency. At the Columbus International Festival Health Fair, we will feature the work of the World Health Organization through a series of posters developed by Dr. Chad Alger and illustrated by one of our talented former interns, Stephanie Rankin. The Flu-Net illustrates how various countries and regions all over the world cooperate and work together to identify the wave of flu microbes sweeping the globe and under time pressure develop the necessary vaccine for the

flu season around the globe including the United States. We will also feature how the WHO interrelates with the other UN agencies through the UN organizational chart.

For the business executive who travels frequently or those who travel for vacation or leisure, the Columbus International Festival Health Fair offers travel tips and advisories for any country around the globe. The health condition including immunizations required of the country being visited can be readily available. State Department advisories are also available. If notified ahead of time, we can try to get people from the country being visited available to answer further questions.

The Health Fair is a celebration of wellness and healthful living. The health fair was added as a component of the Columbus International Festival in response to the City of Columbus "Commit to be Fit" challenge, The State of Ohio's program "Healthy Living for Healthy Ohioans", President Bush's "Healthier US Initiative to help Americans live longer, better and healthier lives", and the UNA-USA's "Global Health Initiative". To get the Health Fair aground, the national UNA-USA gave the Columbus chapter seed money in 2001 and 2002. The Health Fair has grown tremendously since its inception and is continuing to grow.



Programs: YPIC

Simona Vaclavikova
V.P., Programs

Do something new this year – get involved in an international Young Professionals Network organization in your community. If you are interested in international affairs with an avenue for both socializing and (professional) business networking, you’ve come to the right place.

The mission of the Young Professionals Network is to hold social and educational events for globally minded young professionals to help inspire friendships and business opportunities.

The Network hosts forums with speakers in a casual setting to allow for informal discussions with the speaker. Presentations cover international political issues, comparative literature, film and art as well as travel. Monthly gatherings will occur to discuss issues in-depth and socialize at local bars and cafes. Other events will include wine tasting and ethnic food and language nights.

Watch for these upcoming events...

MARCH	Frank Baker, Senior Foreign Policy Advisor, U.K. Embassy
APRIL	International Photograph exhibit by Bob Studzinski at Global Gallery
MAY	OSU Professor Margaret Mills, Middle East Expert and Folklore Specialist Roundtable discussion at Zen Cha Tea Salon
JUNE	Wine tasting at Spagio Cellar Meet and mingle with other young professionals and talk about international issues

Join our mailing list to get the latest updates. Email Simona at simona@unacol.org to sign-up and to get more information. We are looking forward to seeing you at one of our events soon.



UN MDGs: FAQs

In the coming newsletter editions, we will give an overview of each UN MDG. Presented in this edition are Goals 3 and 4.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women.

Target: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and at all levels by 2015.

- There are 876 million illiterate adults in the world; two-thirds of them are women.
- The number of literate women increased from 390 million to 432 million in 2000 (a global increase of 3%, raising the rate to 83%).
- In Sub-Saharan Africa the ratio of boys’ to girls’ enrollment in primary and secondary schools is 8 to 1.
- Of the 1.2 billion people who live in extreme poverty worldwide, 70% are women and girls. Systematic gender discrimination—the denial of women’s basic human rights—is a major cause of poverty.
- Women work 67% of the world’s working hours, and produce 50% of the world’s food, yet they earn only 10% of the world’s income and own less than 1% of the world’s property.
- In 2003, women held only 15% of seats in national parliaments.



Goal 4: Reduce child mortality.

Target: Reduce the mortality rate of children under five by two thirds.

- 11 million children die each year before they reach the age of five, in most cases by easily treatable diseases.
- 20% of Africa’s children die before the age of five.
- 20% of child deaths in developing countries were caused by preventable acute respiratory infections.
- In 2001, the infant mortality rate in the developing world was 61 deaths per 1,000 births.
- HIV/AIDS was the primary cause of 8% of deaths in children under five in sub-Saharan Africa.
- In the developing world only 78% of children are immunized against tuberculosis and 69% against measles.
- 30 million children worldwide do not receive vaccinations for easily preventable diseases.
- If progress is not dramatically accelerated in sub-Saharan Africa, this goal will not be achieved until the year 2165.



**ONE SPIRIT
ONE WILL
ZERO
POVERTY**

We have the Goals, and we have the Spirit...
Let's help create the Will for Zero Poverty

Learn more about the 2006 campaigns for Bread for the World,
The ONE Campaign, the United Nations Association –Columbus Chapter, and find creative and effective ways
you can help reduce poverty and hunger in our world

**Ohio-Wide Advocacy Workshop
On International Hunger and Poverty**

Saturday, April 1, 2006

9:00 to 3:00 pm

**Trinity Lutheran Seminary
2199 East Main Street
Columbus, Ohio 43209**

Continental breakfast and lunch included. **\$5 registration fee** requested, payable at door
(Please see RSVP instructions below)

Agenda: tentative, please check back for updates....

9:00 Registration, followed by welcome
9:20 Main Speaker on The Millennium Development Goals
9:45 Interactive Learning Experience
10:30 The One Spirit. One Will. Zero Poverty. Campaign
11:15 Breakout Sessions
Hunger and poverty issues;
Strengthening our local groups;
The ONE Campaign;
Specific issues related to the MDGs?)
12:15 Lunch
1:00 More Breakout Sessions
2:00 Your questions, your energy...exciting next steps in our work together
3:00 We leave...and the work begins!

*RSVP requested to help us plan for lunch. Please contact Simona Vaclavikova, VP of Programs at
simona@unacol.org*