



In This Issue: Membership Drive Continues

## Advocacy Corner Ending Discrimination Against Women

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In the last issue of our Tuesday Newsletter, we shared major concerns over CEDAW and the position of the national UNA on these issues. In this issue of the Newsletter, the advocacy corner will share the benefits of the ratification of CEDAW, the process of ratifying CEDAW and what we can do today to support CEDAW. In addition, the article includes a brief summary of the April 6th conference call on CEDAW hosted by the UNA-USA.

What is the benefit of ratifying CEDAW in the U.S.? The following information is extracted from the UNA-USA website.

<http://www.unausa.org/Page.aspx?pid=934>

US ratification of CEDAW will strengthen our country's efforts to advance the status of women around the world. Failure to ratify CEDAW weakens America's ability to demand that other governments meet their treaty obligations to protect women's rights and reduces America's credibility as a global leader on human rights. CEDAW has been a tool for strengthening the rule of law and improving the lives of women around the world. The treaty has facilitated the enactment of anti-discrimination laws, and the reversal of inequitable laws, in many countries and serves as a tool with which activists can press their governments to fulfill their commitments under the treaty. The treaty has been used to increase access to primary education for girls, improve protection from sex trafficking and violence, expand health services, and to enable women to secure micro-loans and establish small businesses.

How is CEDAW Making Changes in the World?

- Improving Women's Legal Rights: Brazil, Columbia, Uganda and South Africa have made constitutional changes that reflect the equal rights of women, disallowing discrimination based on gender
- Improving Women's Working Condition: Australia passed national legislation against sexual harassment in the workplace
- Advocating for Better Girls' Education: Slovenia and Switzerland have created new school admission policies to increase access for girls
- Stopping Violence Against Women: Columbia and Uganda have worked to advocate against domestic violence by either creating laws to protect female victims of violence or by using state funds to support social programs and campaigns
- Improving Standards and Access of Health Care: The Philippines has created a Maternal Health Care Program for women

What is the process of ratifying CEDAW?

To ratify the convention, first, the treaty should be referred to the full United States Senate for a vote by Senate Foreign Relation Committee. After that, two-thirds of Senate consent- that is 67 "Yes"- by full United States Senate. Then the President signs the treaty and ratification is completed.

[http://www.womenstreaty.org/facts\\_home.htm](http://www.womenstreaty.org/facts_home.htm)

UNA USA-the National CEDAW Effort

On the Tuesday, April 6th, 2010 UNA USA had a conference call nationwide. According to report by the national UNA office total 83 people attended the conference call. Following is a part of interview with Karen Vogal who attended the conference call and one of the UNA-USA delegates CSW 54. Ms. Vogal mentioned that the audience was diverse and varied in interests and experiences. Presentations were excellent and supplemented well by insightful questions and comments.

According to her report, the discussion was organized to cover these areas and questions: a) What is the UN Commission on the Status of Women (history and scope)? b) How has the Commission and its work changed over the years? c) What is the Beijing Platform of Action? d) What happened at the 54th Session of CSW and the Beijing Review? e) What were people's experiences and impressions of the meetings? f) What is CEDAW and why is it important? and g) What can people do?

The conference call involved a series of speakers addressing each of the topics/questions, and then a lively question and answer session from participants. The importance of CEDAW as an instrument for securing women's rights was highlighted. And of course, all of the participants mentioned that the U.S. should ratify CEDAW. It provides norms and guidelines, as well as monitoring and accountability. Without ratifying CEDAW, the U.S.'s own position, as well as its attempts to influence others' human rights record, is undermined. (Dr. Karen Vogel, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Model United Nations Program at Hamline University, St. Paul, MN, and member of UNA-Minnesota.)

**PARTICIPATE TODAY & SUPPORT CEDAW!!**

Write a Letter to President Obama urging him to ratify CEDAW to do so, visit: [unausa.org](http://unausa.org)

## THE MODEL UN on Global Climate Change: 2010



Click To View 2009 Model U.N. Conference

**The Model UN on Global Climate Change  
June 4, 2010  
Pasadena City College**

**You are invited to attend the Model UN  
Conference  
For information contact  
The UN Association  
626 449-1795  
or [sherry@unapasadena.org](mailto:sherry@unapasadena.org)**

**Model United Nations** is an excellent opportunity to introduce students to world affairs and international negotiations.

**What are the benefits for the students?**

- Students will be able to engage in healthy competition.
- Students will be able to gain experience in writing position papers, public debates and negotiations.
- Students gain confidence through training in critical thinking and professional presentation.
- Students will be coached by veteran Model UN instructors and college mentors.

**The UNA PASADENA**

As a national nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing US participation in the United Nations system with its agenda of education, we believe that the Model United Nations program for high school students is an important way to educate our youth in leadership, communication, and global affairs. For over sixty years, our Chapter office of the UNA has instituted programs and events that inspire, mobilize, and engage the Pasadena Foothills community.

**How to participate?**

1. Are you a high school student in 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade who wants to join the MUN conference?
2. Are you a teacher? We need your support to bring this learning experience to the students and educate them!!
3. Are you a sponsor who wants to be associated with educating our youth in the areas of energy efficiency, conservation and the positive impact of global sustainability?

Please contact the UNA Pasadena-Foothills office and support the Model United Nations Today!!



## Promoting Global Cooperation

UNA-USA's Membership programs

Join Today Help us Secure a Grant for the FUTURE of the UNA.

For the first hundred new members who join the UNA Pasadena Foothills Chapter, we will receive a grant of \$500 from the UNA USA. This is an incentive to broaden our organization while encouraging a healthy future for our programs which continue to touch more and more constituents. Our Model UN is expanding to include students from South Pasadena and now Glendale. Our collaborations are broadening to include the second year of the Global Friends initiative with a new home base at John Muir High School. Stay tuned for information on our Coffee Talks Speakers Series which will continue in May with local Humanitarian Heroes.

Join the UNA today and SAVE! In July membership fees will go up.

To become a member and to support the UN local effort go to: [unausa.org/pasadenachapter](http://unausa.org/pasadenachapter)



UNA-USA is a nonprofit membership organization whose educational, policy and advocacy programs stress the importance of nations working together and the need for American leadership at the United Nations. UNA-USA pioneers efforts to involve the American public in the discussion of foreign policy priorities as well as to provide information and educational materials for Congress, the executive branch, corporations, NGOs, the general public and the media.

As a member of UNA, you will be involved in a valuable service as a community activist. UNA volunteers educate their communities; mobilize support for UN and US leadership; serve as liaisons with the media, educators and public officials in their states and communities; and provide visibility at the community level. Our members are a source of new leadership, ideas and energy.

UNA serves many constituencies, such as community-based members and activists, affiliated organizations, business leaders, educators and academic and foreign policy specialists. The 128 chapters work locally throughout the United States, promoting and carrying out these programs, which benefit both local and international communities. Local chapter efforts are further supported at the regional and national levels through the UNA-USA Council of Chapters and Divisions and the national membership staff.

## Celebrating Our Leaders

UNA Executive Director Sherry Simpson Dean  
Woman of the Year by State Senator Carol Liu



UNA Executive Director Sherry Simpson Dean was honored by State Senator Carol Liu along with 3 other outstanding women leaders who were named Women of the Year 2010 in the 21st Senatorial District. The ceremony took place at Glendale Restaurant, Favorite Place in an invitation only luncheon for the honorees and their families. Simpson Dean was honored for her humanitarian efforts including her commitments to expansion of local programs impacting the UN Millennium Goals including the upcoming Model UN focusing on Global Climate Change to be held at Pasadena City College June 4, 2010. Over 200 students will walk in the shoes of global ambassadors as they debate issues related to climate change and attempt to bring consensus to challenges stemming from this pressing global issue. Simpson Dean has served as Executive Director of the UNA Pasadena Foothills Chapter for the last five years. The Pasadena Foothills Chapter has historically been on of the most influential Chapters in the nation. It is currently a leading chapter in coordinating UNA national efforts to green cities.

In tandem with the very active UNA Board of Directors, her efforts have resulted in the launch of several programs including the Coffee Talks Speakers Series, Global Friends Program and collaborations with The Mayor's office The Links Pasadena Altadena Chapter, the UNA Green Business Advisory Committee and the Women of the World Awards with 50-/50 Leadership. Senator Carol Liu has enthusiastically signed on to sponsor the Model United Nations conference this year, marking a tremendous achievement for furthering civic and UN relations.

"In joining the UNA, I have found a way to truly think globally and act locally. I travel 6 minutes from my home to our UNA headquarters and our programs are positively impacting lives here and in places thousands of miles away. I have learned that great teams of people can make anything happen. Becoming a member of the UNA is the best \$25 I have ever spent."

Simpson Dean is the EMANY and Sundance Award winning producer of the film AMANDLA! a revolution of our part harmony which chronicles the fall of apartheid through South Africa's freedom music. In April 2010 she was named one of 6 Role Models of The Year by Aspires West. Her focus is now on environmental issues, development of green jobs, and adopting a green lifestyle for herself and her family as well as the community at large. She was just appointed to serve on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's 2060 Blue Ribbon Committee.

"It is an honor to serve the UNA and to develop new ways to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals, through teamwork, cooperation and collaborations. I am thankful for the UNA members and leadership who are unstoppable in working toward a more peaceful just and humane world."

## United Nations Calendar of Events

**Saturday April 24, 2010**

Greening the Earth Day Festival sponsored by the City of Pasadena. Memorial Park (corner of Raymond and Walnut Aves. Pasadena, CA 9am-4pm: visit the UNA booth to learn more about local UN Programs and to check out sustainable products made by local Girl Scouts! See you there.

**Tuesday April 27, 2010**

UNA Pasadena Foothills Chapter Board of Directors Meeting 7pm UNA Boardroom

**Saturday May 8, 2010**

Professional development training session for Model UN teachers with Education Without Borders International and the United Nations Association

## Coffee Talks Update:

### Model UN Demonstration a Success

On April 7 at Pasadena's Armory Center for the Arts the UNA sponsored its first Coffee Talk Speakers event featuring a demonstration of a Model UN and its rules of engagement. Twelve students from the Pasadena City College Model UN debated climate change and represented various nation states. The evening was successfully designed to show audiences what is involved in student preparation and strategy in simulating UN activity leading to the resolution of the world most pressing issues. The Model UN Team from PCC have been winning Model UN Conferences nationally and report recent wins against Ivy League competitors from West Point and Stanford to name a few. These bright and dedicated students will serve as conference hosts and mentors to the 2010 high school participants now registered from Blair HS, Marshall High School, John Muir High School and Pasadena High Schools.



Jason Herbert, President  
PCC Model UN Team conducts Q & A session with audience.



PCC Model UN Delegates  
Debate Climate Change at the Armory Center for the Arts and offered advice to future Model UN high school students



PCC Students represented  
Russia, Venezuela, China, US, Brazil, Mexico and France