



cuuna

Cambridge University United Nations Association

Cambridge University United Nations Association
c/o Cambridge University Students' Union
11/12 Trumpington Street
Cambridge CB2 1QA
✉: info@cuuna.org 🌐: www.cuuna.org

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION REPORT

MICHAELMAS TERM 2006

The Cambridge University United Nations Association (CUUNA) was launched in October 2006 as an official branch of the United Nations Association of the United Kingdom (UNA-UK). We now have over 550 members and associates.

University Societies' Fair (3-4 October 2006) & CUUNA Freshers' Squash (9 October 2006)



STAND UP Campaign (15-16 October 2006)

CUUNA participated in the global STAND UP campaign which was part of the international movement called the 'Global Call to Action against Poverty' (GCAP). Launched by the Millennium Campaign (www.millenniumcampaign.org), 'STAND UP' was a mobilization initiative designed to coincide with global mobilizations around the International Day of Poverty Eradication and the White Band Day of the GCAP. It was an innovative and exciting challenge to set an official Guinness World Record of the greatest number of people ever to physically stand up for 1 minute against poverty and for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) between 10am GMT 15 Oct - 10am GMT 16 Oct 2006.

Besides the CUUNA STAND UP moment, the campaign also encompassed other activities such as participators signing on a huge white cloth. They also had opportunities to find out more information about UNA-UK, the MDGs, international development issues and much more!

It was a great success and over 120 people participated in our event!

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Official Guinness Verification:

*The world record for the most people to 'Stand Up Against Poverty' in 24 hours was set on 15 - 16 October 2006 for the United Nation's Millennium Campaign and involved a massive total of **23,542,614** participants in **11,646** events around the globe.*

www.standagainstopoverty.org



Global White Band Day Formal (17 October 2006)



In support of Global White Band Day, the first social event of the term was a formal hall at St. John's College. The theme was "white band", where everyone had to wear their white bands to show support against poverty.

International Meal Night (25 October 2006)

In celebration of UN Day (24 October), CUUNA hosted an “International Meal Night”. Everyone brought a dish of their home country. It was a great opportunity for cultural exchange, to experience a wide range of cuisines and at the same time learn more about the UN, CUUNA and how to get involved.



Universal Children’s Day (20 November 2006)

Since 14 December 1954, the General Assembly recommended that all countries institute a Universal Children’s Day, to be observed as a day of worldwide fraternity and understanding between children. It recommended that the Day was to be observed also as a day of activity devoted to promoting the ideals and objectives of the Charter and the welfare of the children of the world. The UK does not however officially recognise this day and we are one of the few countries in the world not to celebrate it.

CUUNA wanted to celebrate this day by involving as many people as possible from the university in a fundraising event to raise awareness about Universal Children’s Day, its origin and significance.

In collaboration with CUUNICEF, money was raised for UNICEF, to advocate for the protection of children’s rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

www.unicef.org

On this day, students dressed up in the theme of ‘CHILDHOOD’, which included anything from cartoon characters to school uniform.

Christmas *Poverty* Dinner (28 November 2006)

With all the Christmas festivities we often forget that the global distribution of wealth today is still terribly unequal and about half of the world’s population lives on less than \$2 per day. And so as CUUNA’s last social event of this term we presented the “Christmas *Poverty* Dinner”.

The aim of the dinner was to reflect simply the uneven global distribution of income in which the richest 20% of the population hold 75% of the world income while 80% of humanity gets just the remainder 25% (Human Development Report 2005).

So, there was a 20% chance of having a “rich”, wonderful and delicious Christmas dinner, and an 80% chance of having a “poor” blander Christmas dinner. Rich and poor meals were allocated at random.



UN Study Tour to Geneva - In Progress

CUUNA launches its grand hallmark event of this academic year - our first ever UN study tour to Geneva. This will be a truly unique opportunity to learn about the UN at the UN from UN employees and experts as they deliver a host of exciting, specially themed talks about the functions, controversies and very latest projects at and of each of the diverse range of institutions to be visited. To name but a few, they include:

- Palais des Nations
- United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD)
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The tour will be officially co-organised by the World Federation of United Nations Association (WFUNA), who, by its nature and location in Geneva, have the access and network that enables us to ensure participants truly penetrate the very core of each of the institutions, seeing and understanding ideas and operations that the 'common' tourist will simply not have the chance to!

Lent and Easter Term 2007

With Lent and Easter Term approaching we hope to continue with our campaigns and socials. We are also looking to launch our inaugural UN Study Tour (see above) and also host a series of speakers which will not only provide inspiration to our members but also opportunities for discussion and exploration. We also have a very experienced Editorial Committee working on our very own publication which in the future will be termly. Should any enquiries arise, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@cuuna.org. Equally, we invite you to browse our website at www.cuuna.org for more photos and information on our events.

Best regards,

Kai Yuen WONG (Mr.)

President & Founder
Cambridge University United Nations Association (CUUNA)