



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



United Nations  
Association  
of Australia  
Victorian Division





# CONTENTS

<b>President's Report</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Executive Manager's Report</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Our Partners</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Our People</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Global Education Program</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Sustainable Development Goals</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>International SDG Internships</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Young Professionals Network</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Status of Women Committee</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>UN Youth Victoria</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Finances</b>	<b>19</b>

ALL IMAGES PROPERTY OF UNAA VICTORIA UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

Inside Cover: UN Photo/Lois Conner

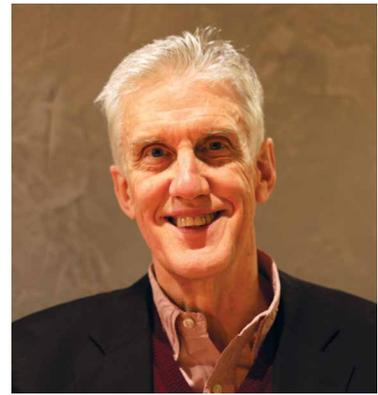
Page 6: UN Photo/Loey Felipe

Page 13: UN Photo/Harandane Dicko

Page 18: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

Design: Ali Miller // [pixeljamdesign.com.au](http://pixeljamdesign.com.au)

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The 2021/22 financial year was a year of further uncertainty because of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Having adapted to survive the earlier stages, UNAAV began work in early 2022 to re-establish its programs and priorities.

The massive impacts on schools meant that our Global Education team, led by Dr Sally Northfield, had to plan and deliver Model UNs in a continually changing environment across the reporting period. In the second half of 2021, Model UNs were delivered either online or in person depending on the prevailing circumstances. In early 2022, a full program of scheduled Model UNs was in place for the year ahead, but it was still not clear if there would be further disruptions. You can read more about our Global Education Program in this report.

Our Young Professional Network and UN Youth Victoria also began to rebuild with some events and programs back to in person, while others remained online. Our Status of Women Committee decided to continue to hold hybrid meetings so that speakers and attendees from regional Victoria and interstate could remain involved.

I would like to again thank UNAAV staff and my colleagues on the Board for their hard work and tireless commitment. Treasurer Tony Dobson continued to ensure that the organisation's financial situation was closely monitored and planned. Alice Greenhill finished a second period on our Board, and we thank her for her very strong contribution to the success and sustainability of our organisation.

After more than six years, Sophie Arnold finished as Executive Manager. During this time, Sophie integrated the UN Sustainable Development Goals into all our programs, introduced our very popular tours to UN in Geneva and New York and oversaw the successful online delivery of the UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum 2021.

After very successfully building our flagship Global Education program over several years, Dr Sally Northfield has now taken over as Executive Manager so the organisation remains in very good hands.

**Professor Ian Howie**  
**UNAA Victoria President**

# EXECUTIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

As with so many other community organisations, COVID-19 dominated planning and program delivery during 2021/2022.



As our focus is to engage the Victorian community with the work and ideals of the United Nations, we were again restricted in our ability to hold events and run Model UNs in schools. With overseas travel still so uncertain in early 2022, we knew that our UN Study Tours could not recommence.

For the second year in a row, our Global Education program which delivers Model UNs – simulations of the UN General Assembly - in schools and universities – was severely challenged. But, again, Dr Sally Northfield and program staff took on this challenge and came up with ways to deliver existing and new programs online.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic and resulting dislocation to their own careers, UNAAV's Young Professionals again met every challenge and ran several key online events during 2020/2021. Thank you to Co-Presidents Monica Lillas, Kathryn Smith, Tony Luo and Chandra Parihar.

Special thanks must go to UNAAV Board members for their continued support during this difficult year. The wellbeing of staff members was always at their forefront during every Board meeting, along with thoughtful decision-making aimed at ensuring the organisation's sustainability.

Thank you also to all our partners, members and supporters for their continued involvement.

This is my last report as Executive Manager as I am handing over the reins to my colleague, Dr Sally Northfield, who is moving across from steering the Global Education program so successfully. Thank you to everyone I have collaborated with since joining UNAAV in February 2016.

**Sophie Arnold**  
Executive Manager



“Disinformation spreads when people feel that their voices are not heard. It arises in contexts where political disenchantment, economic disparity or social unrest flourish. It flourishes when civil society, journalists, human rights defenders and scientists cannot work, assemble and speak freely,”

Michelle Bachelet, now retired UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

# OUR PARTNERS

UNAA Victoria partners with a number of organisations and we gratefully acknowledge the support and involvement of these organisations.

If you are interested in discussing partnership opportunities, by emailing [office@unaavictoria.org.au](mailto:office@unaavictoria.org.au).

## GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

UNAA Victoria acknowledges the support of the Department of Education and Training through the Strategic Partnerships Program and the Languages Program



Education  
and Training



# OUR PEOPLE

## PATRON

Her Excellency, the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria

## BOARD

### PRESIDENT

Ian Howie

### VICE PRESIDENT

Monica Lillas (and Co-Convenor Young Professionals Network until July 2021)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Michael Henry AM

### SECRETARY

Sophie Arnold

### TREASURER

Tony Dobson

### MEMBERS

Kerry Boland

Andrew Hewett

Warwick Peel

Carlisle Richardson

Kathryn Smith (Young Professionals Network Co-Convenor until October 2021)

Tony Luo (Young Professionals Network Co-President from December 2021)

Chandra Parihar (Young Professionals Network Co-President from December 2021)

Michael Donoghue-Evans (2021 UN Youth Victorian President)

Megan Hince (2022 UN Youth Victoria President)

Shirley Reynolds (Status of Women Committee)

### EXECUTIVE MANAGER

Sophie Arnold

### GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER

Dr Sally Northfield

### GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM OFFICERS

Katherine Reyers

Imogen Wait

Emily O'Connor

Julia O'Kelly



# GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our mission at UNAA Victoria is to bring the work of the United Nations into the community. One of the ways we engage with the community in Victoria is via our Global Education Program. Having trialled several highly interactive virtual events in late 2020, the Global Education Program was well placed to continue to provide unique enrichment opportunities online and in person, to expand understanding of key global issues and enhance skills, such as public speaking, advocacy, diplomacy and collaboration that are vital to becoming active, informed and responsible global citizens.

In the second half of 2021, in the midst of ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, we delivered 13 virtual Model UNs, including four language specific Model UNs in German, French, Indonesian and Japanese. The effectiveness of the virtual delivery mode trialled in 2020 proved useful when consulting with the Department of Education (DET) Languages Unit about what we could deliver in 2021, including how to deliver the event to students in their own homes but needing to be able to communicate with the other members of their country teams as well as enter the secure General Assembly space.

*“During the online UN conference, we were able to put our accumulated knowledge and skills to the test, engaging with new ideas as well as expanding on our skills of diplomacy, debating and German language fluency.” Student participant 2021*

Another highlight of the virtual delivery mode was an event sponsored by the DET-Koorie Outcomes Division and supported by the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages focusing on preservation of Indigenous languages. Carlisle Richardson and Alana Marsh moderated the conversation with Uncle Locky Eccles as special guest speaker. Discussion included information about language and teacher training courses for Koorie community members, and how to increase the number of Koorie language programs in Victorian kindergartens and schools.

*“I encourage you all to become ‘language activists’ now, during the decade coming up and for the rest of your lives. Aboriginal culture, and within that, languages are the foundation of our country” participant.*

During 2021/2022, we also ran another eight online Model UNs for secondary schools. Virtually, we reached 66 schools and 1090 attendees with these 13 online events.

Delivery of the Model UNs online in 2021 provided schools and students with the ability to plan for events that did not need to be cancelled if COVID-19 restrictions changed. As restrictions fluctuated, so did our mode of delivery to suit the circumstances and remain COVID safe.

*“Being able to do something different during lockdown and also having a glimpse into such a cool global structure,” 2021 participant*

Another bonus of online delivery was being able to provide easy access to rural and remote students, some of whom in previous years had left in the early hours to travel to Melbourne or had been unable to participate because of distance. Online Model UNs also meant we were able to maintain linkages and relationships with teachers and schools.

*“Being able to talk to other countries and learn about their cultures and how they are handling Covid-19.” 2022 participant*

These online events also solidified the pool of experienced Secretary Generals who are now able to moderate Model UNs virtually and in person. Small room dialogues were very popular online, and many students asked for more time – as is often the

13  
VIRTUAL  
MODEL UNs

66  
SCHOOLS

1090  
ATTENDEES



*“During the online UN conference, we were able to put our accumulated knowledge and skills to the test, engaging with new ideas as well as expanding on our skills of diplomacy, debating and German language fluency.”*

*Student participant  
2021*



“It was really immersive and engaging. I like the style of making it feel like a tour of a building; ‘walking’ through corridors and seeing different rooms. I also really enjoying the personal stories that were thrown into the tour”

2022 participant

case with face-to-face Model UNs. We were also very pleased with the level of interactivity that our mode of delivery offered the students – via social media channels, chat, breakout rooms and speaking formally to the assembly.

*“Having the model UN day online was actually really fun as you could pull on more research and get in touch with countries you wanted to create alliances with.”*

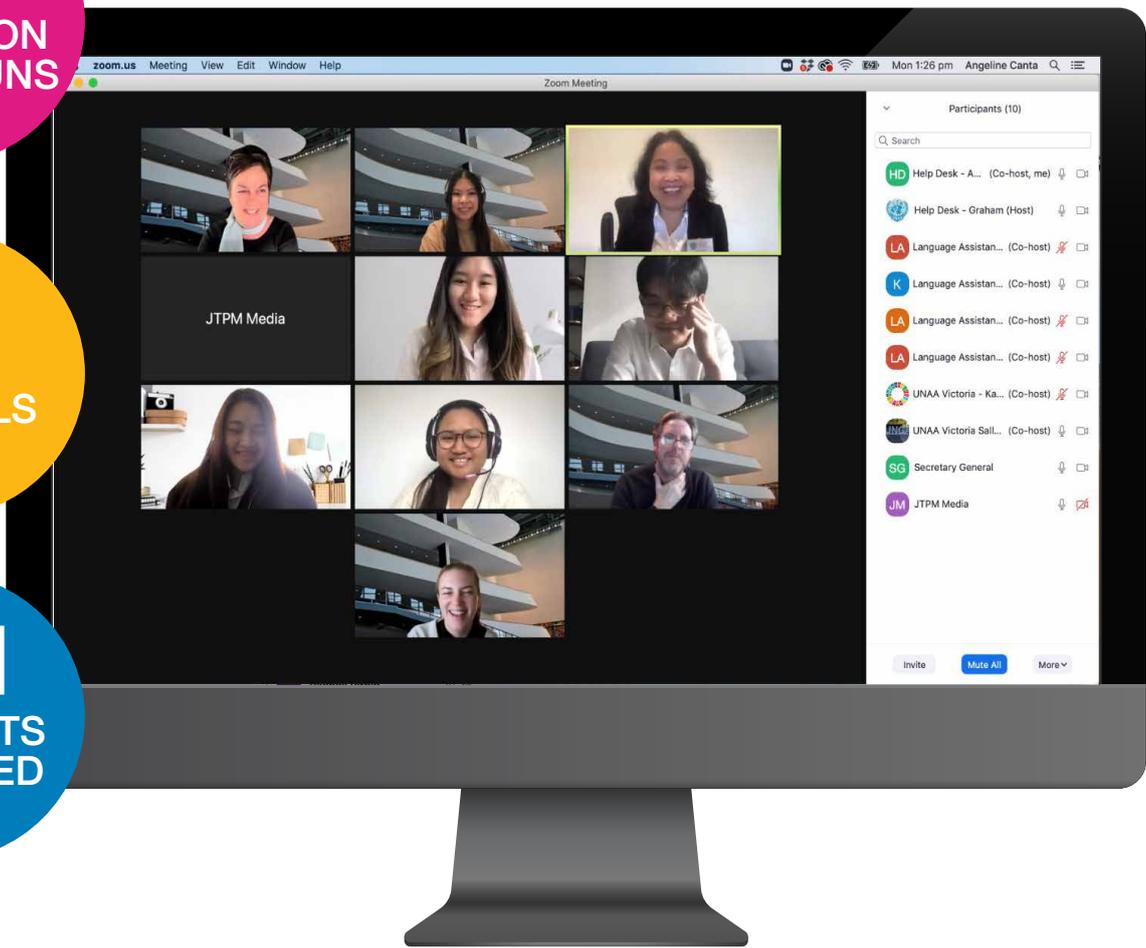
In 2022, we embraced a hybrid model and returned to in person Model UNs as well as continuing to deliver virtual events. The Global Education Program produced materials for a new initiative - virtual tours to the UN with former UN officials as tour guides.

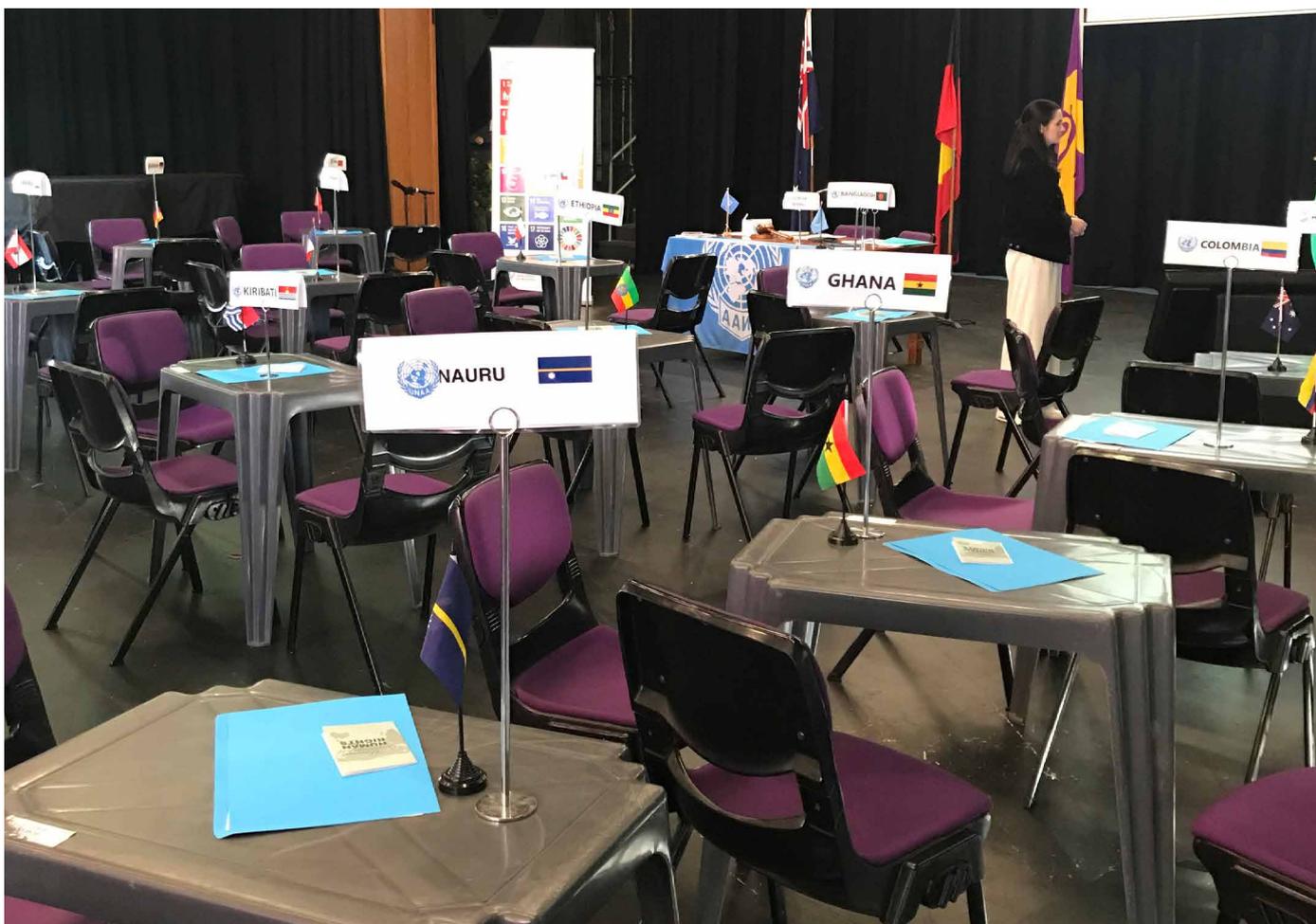
Finally, as we emerged from COVID-19 restrictions in 2022, we were able to resume core business - delivering in person Model UNs. We returned to six of our regular host sites and reached 22 schools with 421 students attending the events. People were excited to be back in the same room and we particularly enjoyed the discussion that ensued

6  
IN PERSON  
MODEL UNs

22  
SCHOOLS

421  
STUDENTS  
ATTENDED





from the introduction of a new topic - Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Development: Harnessing the Benefits, Safeguarding Human Rights

*“Due to Covid-19, most of my classmates and I have missed a lot of opportunities for public speaking. Being able to do this today after not being able to for such a long time has definitely improved or revised my public speaking skills.”*

Overall, virtually and in person, we connected with 1511 students from 88 schools. When students were asked if they would recommend participation in a Model UN to their peers, 93% responded yes to this question.

As an interactive, student-led program which enables students to understand practical and personal skills to use their voice, our program continues to provide Victorian students with valuable, curriculum aligned hands-on experiences and provides teachers with a wide range of ways to extend learning beyond what is possible in a traditional classroom setting.

**Dr Sally Northfield**  
Global Education Program Manager



*“Thank you so very much for this. My students really enjoyed the session and, despite being pushed out of their comfort zone, realised they know and can do much more than they think. What a valuable experience this has been,”*

Teacher 2022



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Delivery of all UNAA Victoria programs and activities are guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Schools participating in our Global Education program choose from SDG-related topics and each of our events is planned around either one or more of the Goals.

The small-group Study Tours we run to the UN in New York and Geneva are also focused on raising awareness of the Goals, with visits to UN officials and organisations related to the UN planned to cover as many of the areas covered by the Goals as possible.

In late 2021, UNAA Victoria collaborated with Spark Strategy to produce *The UN Sustainable Development Goals = social, environmental, and business value An Australian handbook with insights, advice, and practical strategies*

More than 350 people registered to attend the online launch. The handbook provides practical advice for private and community sector, government and academic organisations either starting their SDGs journey or looking to build on work to date. Organisations featured as case studies included the Sydney Opera House, Zoos Victoria, Transurban and Western Sydney University.

UNAA Victoria has also partnered with Deakin University, the Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANHCA) and SENVIC, the Victorian Social Enterprise Network, to deliver SDG-focused face to face and web-based programs for students and member organisations.

In 2021/2022, Executive Manager, Sophie Arnold, delivered SDG-related presentations at several events, including the:

- > *Ignite the Flame* education conference
- > Mallee Neighbourhood House Network conference
- > Building Better Links – State/Local Government and community organisations meeting
- > Countdown to 2030: Challenges for the SDGs – Jean Monnet Scientific and Social Innovation in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SSISDG) Network and RMIT Seminar
- > UNAA ACT SDGs Panel Discussion
- > SENVIC Conversation Circles.

# INTERNATIONAL SDG INTERNSHIPS

From October to March, UNAAV staff worked with two groups of students from Indian universities taking part in internships as part of the *Industry – University partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*.

Four students from Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi, researched *Nature Based and Human Solutions for Tackling Biodiversity Loss* (SDGs 14, 15 and 17), while students from the Centre for Social Sensitivity and Action, Goa Institute of Management, researched *A World without Waste: Making the transition to a Circular Economy* (SDG 12 and 17).

Students researched their topic from the perspective of an allocated UN Member State and then verbally presented the views of their country in an online, mini-Model UN moderated by UNAA Victoria President Professor Ian Howie as Secretary-General.

Goa Institute of Manager Director, Ajit Parulekar congratulated “all participants for the presentations as well as the discussion. This is an excellent initiative that introduces participants to geo-politics, especially those related to climate change.”

Participant Seya Sarah Geejo said it was a “privilege to represent Australia and to propose the amendments along with my fellow member nations. Circularity and international partnership are truly the only way forward for a sustainable future “that leaves no one behind” as rightly stated in the vision for UN SDG goals of Agenda 2030”.



“privilege to represent Australia and to propose the amendments along with my fellow member nations. Circularity and international partnership are truly the only way forward for a sustainable future “that leaves no one behind” as rightly stated in the vision for UN SDG goals of Agenda 2030”.





# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS VICTORIA

The UNAA Victoria Young Professionals Network continued to deliver online and in-person events and engagement to continue connecting, empowering, and building the skills of young professionals to achieve the UNAA's mission of creating a safer, fairer, and more sustainable world.

Highly experienced mentors and guest speakers were brought together with young professionals to exchange ideas and knowledge and network for future cross-collaboration opportunities. This included forging meaningful partnerships with like-minded youth networks, including the Monash International Affairs Society, Society of Arts Students at Monash University and the Australia-China Young Professionals Initiative, to collaborate on engagement activities and increase reach and impact.

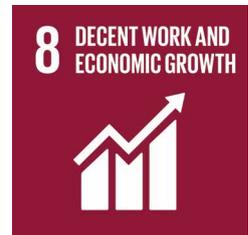
The Victorian Young Professionals also participated in the UNAA event series, My Climate Action, which was designed to provide young professionals with ideas, actionable resources, and tools to directly contribute towards climate change mitigation. A panel webinar on ecosystem restoration allowed for key speakers to discuss the practical actions we can all take in our homes, communities, and wider environment.

The Victorian Young Professionals Network is committed to providing opportunities that will empower young professionals to gain awareness of global issues and be able to take local action. Our events are also designed to enable participants to build valuable skillsets and connections that will make them highly competent social impact leaders.

# 2021/2022 EVENTS

## INTERNATIONAL CAREERS WEBINAR - FOCUS ON ASIA

This webinar event acknowledged the fact that Bangkok hosts more than 60 international organisations, with most either part of, or interacting with, the UN. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the UN's regional hub promoting cooperation among more than 50 UN Member States. Bangkok and the Asia Pacific region have clear strategic importance to Australia and provide enormous opportunities to fulfil international career aspirations. This event brought together three guest speakers with working experience in Bangkok who discussed their career trajectories, projects and how they interact with the UN in Bangkok.



## PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY: THE ROLE OF CONSUMERS IN FAST FASHION

This event examined the ways in which the fashion industry is responding to the demands of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 13 Climate Action and SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth. To an audience of over 75 attendees, a panel of experts shared their insights into the industry and provided guidance to young professionals on how to make sustainable fashion choices.

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CHINESE NEW YEAR COCKTAIL FUNCTION

In partnership with the Australia-China Young Professionals Initiative (ACYPI) Melbourne Chapter, the Victorian Young Professionals co-hosted a cocktail function event that featured guest speakers with expertise in policymaking and cross-cultural relations. With around 100 young professionals in attendance, policymakers and guest speakers shared their career experience and passion for social change to address the SDGs, particularly Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals, and provided opportunities for people to form meaningful connections and cross-network.

## MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SOCIETY 'DRINKS AND LINKS' NIGHT

Members of the Victorian Young Professionals were delighted to attend as guest mentors at the Drinks and Links event which was run by the Monash International Affairs Society and the Society of Arts Students. This networking-style event allowed aspirational leaders to hear first-hand about the work of the UN, the SDGs and how to partake in opportunities to create social impact in their respective fields of interest.

## INTERNATIONAL CAREERS SPEED MENTORING EVENT

The event hosted mentors with representatives from DFAT, the Oaktree Foundation, PwC Australia, the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) and UNAA Victoria. With over 60 young professionals in attendance, participants were broken into small groups with opportunities to network and rotate conversations with individual mentors. Mentors were on hand to provide advice and ideas about international careers in the UN and related international organisations; the private sector and not-for-profits, as well as Government. This night was a great success with our panel of mentors providing great insights into different career pathways into international affairs.



**Tony Luo and Chandra Parihar,  
Young Professionals Co-Presidents**



# STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE

The UNAA Victoria Status of Women Committee (SOWC) works to provide information that stimulates critical thinking and the exchange of ideas for action.

During 2021/2022, the SOWC continued to hold hybrid meetings so they could maintain the strong involvement of women from regional Victoria and other States that began during lockdown.

Attendees and speakers focused on a key theme during each monthly meeting, with a decision made in early 2022 to focus on climate and gender equality. Some of the topics covered included:

- > Ann McLeish, Managing Director, Grandparents Victoria about the greater call on grandparents for childcare and the need for them to have more say in policymaking
- > The *Respect@Work: Sexual Harassment National Inquiry 2020* and resulting Senate inquiry which included a section in its final report on ratification of ILO Convention 190 (2019) on the elimination of violence and harassment at work.
- > The National Summit on Women's Safety held in September 2021
- > The Bill introduced in Queensland to amend the criminal age of responsibility
- > Foreign aid and debt and the need for funding to flow to gender based initiatives
- > The UN Security Council and its role in peace and security, with reports from Soroptimist International (SI) about the Ukraine situation

In April, the Committee discussed Australia's ratification of the ILO 2014 protocol to the Forced Labour Convention and what it means for Australia when ratifying such conventions while, in June, members talked about the increase in women MPs and cultural representation as a result of the Federal election, keeping the Office for Women within Prime Minister and Cabinet and Katy Gallagher being the Minister responsible for women and finance.

# UN YOUTH VICTORIA

UN Youth Victoria is led by a team of young, inspired volunteers aged between 16 and 24.

During the reporting period, UN Youth Victoria delivered a mix of in-person and online events. In late 2021, the annual Evatt public speaking competition worked well online, attracting 500 entrants, more than in previous years.

The 2022 State Conference was held successfully face to face in early 2022, although with reduced numbers due to prevailing COVID19 isolation requirements. The Conference focus this year was on international law. Planning was underway at the end of 2021/2022 for the yearly Model UN Competition held at State Parliament and a large delegation of trained UNYV facilitators were preparing to attend the UN Youth National Council in July.

UNYV also made major progress against one of its key strategic goals to make events more accessible by choosing a new more physically accessible venue for its 2023 State Conference.



# FINANCES

## > STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As At 30 June 2022

	FY2022	FY2021
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
CASH AT BANK	\$88,942	\$165,892
PREPAID EXPENSES	\$4,683	\$9,650
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,810	\$117
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$95,434</b>	<b>\$175,660</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS (Written Down Value)</b>	<b>\$5,511</b>	<b>\$7,019</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$100,945</b>	<b>\$182,679</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$11,110	\$14,259
PAY-ROLL LIABILITIES	\$27,213	\$33,858
SHORT TERM LOAN <sup>2</sup>	\$3,980	
GST	\$1,215	\$746
DEFERRED REVENUE	\$52,052	\$26,243
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$95,569</b>	<b>\$75,105</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</b>	<b>\$5,376</b>	<b>\$107,574</b>

## > STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Year Ending 30 June 2022

	FY2022	FY2021
<b>INCOME</b>		
PROGRAM INCOME RECEIVED	\$86,005	\$168,676
MEMBERSHIPS RECEIVED	\$8,594	\$9,846
OTHER INCOME <sup>1</sup>	\$43,513	\$118,745
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$138,113</b>	<b>\$297,267</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
PROGRAM EXPENDITURE	\$20,814	\$99,362
EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES	\$168,954	\$188,341
OCCUPANCY EXPENSES	\$33,979	\$8,578
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	\$15,056	\$13,453
DEPRECIATION EXPENSES	\$1,508	\$1,557
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$240,311</b>	<b>\$311,290</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(\$102,198)</b>	<b>(\$14,023)</b>

Note 1: includes Covid Related Government Subsidies and Grants  
 Note 2: Short term funding for Insurance premiums



# United Nations Association of Australia

**United Nations Association of Australia  
Victorian Division**

GPO Box 45, Melbourne VIC 3001  
office@unaavictoria.org.au | www.unaavictoria.org.au

**Support and donate at [www.unaavictoria.org.au](http://www.unaavictoria.org.au)**



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**  
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD