



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017

## Introduction

***Sarah Kenningham (Chair)***



My second and final year as Chair of UWC Great Britain (UWC GB) has been one of highs and lows. The highlight of the year was attending the UWC Congress in Trieste, Italy and catching up with my UWC USA classmates from Thailand and Panama. It was motivating to see and hear from so many different people all committed to the United World College movement in some way or another. Nearly all

of the Great Britain National Committee (GB NC) attended and it was a great opportunity to recharge our UWC batteries and draw inspiration from one another. The commitment of National Committee volunteers was widely recognised and celebrated throughout the event.

On the down side, the financial constraints facing many colleges were also highlighted and the lack of scholarship funding available for British students from low and middle-income households once again resulted in some UWC places being turned down on affordability grounds. As a consequence, a few international colleges will not have GB representatives in the Class of 2019 and others a reduced number.

Still, we mustn't forget that we are in an extremely privileged position in the UK, with over forty GB students attending Atlantic College (AC) and the other colleges each year. The challenge in the future will be to maintain and strengthen this representation and have the resources available to ensure that funding can be provided to all who need it.

## Remembering John Walmsley

*John Walmsley was the Principal at Atlantic College from January 2012 to December 2016. He died peacefully at home on 7 June 2017.*

I had the pleasure of working with John from the outset in my role as



Chair. He was keen that GB NC and AC work closely together and offered his support to the end. One of my fondest memories was hearing him speak at the AC Open Day in 2015, when he very enthusiastically told the gathered parents and young people that studying at a UWC could lead to many varied career paths. He gave the example of a gathering of UWC alumni in Los Angeles where he had just met a professional poker player....one of my classmates from UWC USA! Not sure how this went down with the parents but John was always a great advocate for the UWC educational model and will be sorely missed. Donations in John's memory can continue to be made to his chosen charities, Amnesty International and the Marine Conservation Society via [Justgiving](#).

Peter Howe is the new Principal of Atlantic College and he took up his appointment in March 2017. AC is the third UWC that Peter has worked at, having being Head of College at UWC Maastricht after seven years on the staff of UWC Adriatic in the roles of Rettore, Vice Rettore, Director of Studies and IB Coordinator. GB NC are looking forward to collaborating with Peter and his staff at AC to increase awareness about UWC in the UK and ensure that British students from all walks of life and all parts of the country have the opportunity to access a UWC education in future years.

### **UWC Great Britain Structure and Governance** ***Frances Willmott (Secretary)***

UWC GB is a membership charity and as such, we encourage all eligible UWC alumni and parents to join, show their support and stay involved in the movement. Current membership criteria allows for two different types of membership:

- **Full membership** is open to anyone who represented Great Britain at a UWC or on an official UWC short course wherever they now live, anyone who went to a UWC or an official UWC short course representing any country and are now resident in the UK and the parents or guardians of those people or of current students.
- **Associate membership** is open to people who are current students at a UWC representing Great Britain and current or former employees of the UWC movement who live in the UK.

All membership applications must be approved and only full members are entitled to vote or stand for election to GB NC. As of 30 June 2017, 164 people had been approved as full members entitled to vote at the 2017 AGM, up from 46 in May 2016.

### **GB National Committee (GB NC)**

The GB NC are the Trustees and Directors of UWC Great Britain Ltd. (Registered Charity No. 11027423) (Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee No. 5200658). There are currently fourteen members of GB NC (maximum number fifteen):

### **Executive**

Sarah Kenningham (*USA, 1990*) - Chair

Frances Willmott (*Atlantic College, 2004*) - Secretary

Richard Hills (*Parent Waterford Kamhlaba, Red Cross Nordic*) - Treasurer  
 Vacant - Selections Officer  
 Vacant - Vice Chair

### **Officers**

Sarah Whittington (*Parent Maastricht, Mahindra & Waterford*) - Welfare Officer  
 Abigail Emery (*Atlantic College 2010*) - Publicity Officer

### **Committee Members**

Leonardo Costa (*USA, 2004*)  
 Richard Gadd (*Parent Red Cross Nordic*)  
 Kip Kiprop (*Pearson College, 2003*)  
 Valerie Murray (*Parent Costa Rica, Mahindra*)  
 Charlotte Meyer (*USA, 2003*)  
 Anna Moses (*Red Cross Nordic, 2009*)  
 Mona Taylor (*Parent Atlantic College, USA, Dilijan*)  
 Peter Sutoris (*Atlantic College, 2007*)  
 Hedd Thomas (*Atlantic College, 2008*)

Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are roles that we are legally obliged to have being a company as well as a charity. Having officers for selections, welfare and publicity is to ensure that we have have a named person who has overall responsibility for these crucial functions. GB NC will re-elect the Executive and Officers at their first meeting following the AGM elections and fill all the vacant posts.

### **Appointments**

The following have been elected or co-opted onto GB NC and appointed as Trustees and Directors in the past year:

Leonardo Costa	Appointed 16.07.17
Richard Gadd	Appointed 11.06.16
Kip Kiprop	Appointed 11.06.16
Charlotte Meyer	Appointed 11.06.16
Anna Moses	Appointed 16.07.17
Peter Sutoris	Appointed 11.06.16
Mona Taylor	Appointed 11.06.16

### **Resignations**

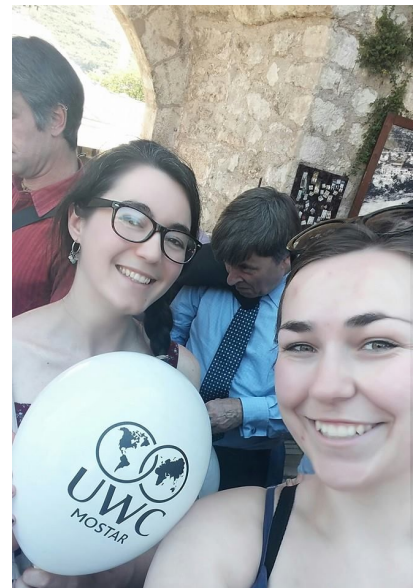
To ensure adequate rotation and vacancies to be filled by election, at least one third of GB NC must resign during the course of the year or at the AGM. Since the last AGM, the following have resigned as Trustees and Directors:

Rowan Hope Campbell	Resigned 16.01.17
Tim Leyshon	Resigned 08.10.16
Rowan Whittington	Resigned 27.11.16

The following will resign at the 2017 Annual General Meeting on 02.09.17:

Abigail Emery (Publicity Officer), Sarah Kenningham (Chair), Frances Willmott (Secretary) and Sarah Whittington (Welfare Officer).

## **THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK!!**



### **UWC Congress** ***Leonardo Costa & Peter Sutoris***



From 28-29 October 2016, the UWC Congress was held in Trieste, Italy. With over 650 attendees from the UWC community, including GB NC, it was the largest Congress ever to be held.

The conversations at the Congress revolved around formulating a new strategic plan for the movement, a process that involved clarifying the role of National Committees in the larger UWC structure. Our members gave input in a number of sessions, contributing our experiences from selections, outreach and welfare. We were able to interface with several heads of colleges and heads of admissions from



different colleges and discuss future offers, the welfare of current GB students as well as any other issues in the relationship between UWC GB and individual colleges. We also took part in sessions that informed us about newly opened and planned colleges, which allowed us to familiarise ourselves with the specific challenges and opportunities our students might face in the future. Several of our members attended the presentation of the preliminary findings of a study about the impact of UWC on its alumni conducted by the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and we engaged in a productive discussion about the future of the study. Overall, the Congress allowed us to connect with many in the wider movement and to better contextualise the work of UWC GB within the larger UWC structure.

Jens Waltermann, the Executive Director of UWC International, presented the draft UWC strategy for discussion. There were a number of interesting statistics about our movement in his presentation that we believe is important to highlight:

- We have over 60,000 UWC alumni since UWC was founded
- There are 155 National Committees and 17 UWC schools
- We have over 4,100 students in IB years

However, we also have a \$25 million a year funding gap to meet all the demonstrated need of our potential students. Meeting this financial need is a key input for achieving the UWC strategy from 2016, in addition to robust governance, scalable processes, professional communication and the effective use of technology.



Three strategic pillars of the UWC strategy for growth and maximising the UWC impact were presented:

- **Educational Strategy** - Focus on four areas: improve the UWC educational experience, ensuring it is unique and values-based; improve teaching capability and diversity with a new UWC Director of Education to assist in the process; develop student skills to be agents of positive change; develop environments where students are supported but have autonomy.
- **National Committee Strategy** - Focus on four areas: meet all demonstrated financial need in 5 years; support the capabilities of National Committees, including the ability to fund some of the financial need; ensure National Committees are able to select students based on promise and potential irrespective of capacity to pay; maximise the impact of the National Committees, including in organising UWC Short-Courses.
- **Engagement Outreach Strategy** - Support an engaged UWC community to promote UWC values and maximise its impact; make UWC a recognised voice in intercultural and diversity education as well as forming strategic relationships with like minded organisations, and promoting UWC's educational model.

There were a number of panels and discussions that went into more detail on what the strategy means for each element of the UWC process and how UWC is relevant in today's world. Overall, it was a very productive Congress where the ideas and the enthusiasm of different National Committees, schools, alumni, and International Office helped to shape the draft strategy. It also enabled best practices to be shared between National Committees, common challenges and experiences were recognised, and collaborative solutions were worked on.



For GB NC, the message from Congress was clear: we need to continue working hard to develop our processes and activities so that they are robust now and in the future and fit with the enhanced expectations on National Committees more generally. This also means making sure we have a coordinated strategy with Atlantic College to maximise our impact in the UK. To do that, we will need the help of our members and volunteers. All hands on deck!!



### **UWC Women's Network** **Sue Pritchard**

UWC GB is always willing to support initiatives organised by alumni, parents and affiliated UWC groups based in the UK. One such event was organised by the UWC Women's Network in London, in January 2017 entitled:

*First Brexit, then President Trump - how can UWC women engage, act and become a force for change?*

We are seeing some dramatic changes in the global political sphere - and not, perhaps, in ways the UWC movement anticipated or hoped for... the continuing wars in the Middle East, the refugee crisis, the rise of extremism, not to mention the use of misogyny and racism as apparently legitimate tools in the elections in western democracies. It is easy to start to feel hopeless and helpless in the face of such challenges.

So how can we act as a force for change for a more peaceful and sustainable future? How can we sustain ourselves and support each other in the face of these challenges?

This UWC Women's Network event heard from UWC alumnae Marg Mayne, Anne Wozencraft, Yanina Aubrey and Sue Pritchard, who have found their own - and different - ways to act as a force for change, professionally, personally, politically.

It was also a lovely opportunity to share experiences and support in a convivial setting. Thanks to alumna Ffiona Rowlands at Mercuri Urval for hosting us.



## Development & Fundraising

In accordance with the protocol in countries where there is both a United World College and a National Committee, fundraising and the allocation of scholarships to students selected by UWC GB is the primary responsibility of Atlantic College.

The scholarship funding awarded annually by AC to UK students is around the £250,000 mark per year group, which equates to ~£500,000 per year. It is currently distributed according to need, in line with the ranking of applicants by UWC GB after assessment week and means testing by AC. Every year GB NC is offered a small number of funded places by other colleges but the vast majority of funding comes from the AC scholarship pot.

More involvement of GB NC and the UWC community in the UK will be needed in the future to meet the demonstrated need of British students and increase the availability of scholarships to all the schools. As such, GB NC and the development team at AC will work together on plans to increase alumni and parent involvement in fundraising activities for this purpose.

## 2016 Atlantic College Open Days

Two open days were held at Atlantic College in September 2016 that attracted over 250 prospective students and parents.

UWC GB volunteers were on hand to answer questions about the application and selections process.



## UWC GB Class of 2018



The Class of 2018 began their UWC adventure in Aug/September 2016 and January 2017 (UWC-WK). Representing the UK are 49 students in total. 21 are attending Atlantic College and 28 have gone to colleges overseas.

Atlantic College 21 (M3, F18)  
 Adriatic 3 (1M, 2F)  
 Changshu 2 (F)  
 Costa Rica 4 (F)  
 Dilijan 1 (M)  
 Li Po Chun 2 (M,F)  
 Maastricht 1 (M)  
 Mahindra 3 (1M, 2F)  
 Mostar 3 (2M, 1F)  
 Pearson 2 (F)  
 Robert Bosch 1 (M)  
 Red Cross Nordic 2 (M,F)  
 USA 2 (M,F)  
 Waterford Kamhlaba 2 (F)

## Orientation Weekend 2016

***Sarah Whittington (Welfare Officer)***

Orientation is an opportunity for each new year group to meet their co-years who will be attending all the different colleges and to link up with their 'second years'. Orientation weekend 2016 was held in July at Thornbridge Outdoors in Derbyshire.

The site was full to capacity with representation of current and former students from each of the colleges as well as parents, family members and UWC GB volunteers. Orientation has grown into a real 'family weekend' with a range of activities such as presentations by current and former students, sharing Hopes and Fears, exploring the Code of Conduct, group games, shared meals and lots of opportunities to ask questions and get practical tips. The weekend was a great success and made more so by the number of volunteers and parents of current students who came along to help out.

The Welfare Officer also stays in touch with students and their parents during their two years at UWC and has links with pastoral staff at the colleges. The GB NC welfare team was strengthened in 2016 with the addition of Valerie Murray and Mona Taylor, who have both worked closely with pastoral staff, parents and some key UWC GB volunteers to give advice, support or practical information to students and their families over the past year. In stepping down after seven years in the Welfare Officer



role, it is a great security to know that this level of support will continue to be offered in conjunction with pastoral staff at all the schools.

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

***Mona Taylor & Valerie Murray***

Exploring effective ways of supporting GB students prior and during their two years at UWC has been part of the work done by the welfare team this year.

The mental health and wellbeing of all UWC students worldwide has been a focus for discussion over recent years. The UWC Congress 2016 also highlighted the need for National Committees to examine how best they could raise awareness and improve understanding of the wide range of issues that fall under the topic of "Mental Health and Wellbeing".

GB NC welfare team has worked together with healthcare professionals, AC pastoral staff, parents and alumni over the last 12 months on this topic to enable an open, informative and supportive structure to be set in place. The outcome of which has been:

- Session during selections week parents programme regarding mental health and wellbeing of students.
- Written disclosure from parents of any known pre-existing issues
- Session at orientation weekend for parents
- Development of a resource pack on mental health, for students and parents (produced by parents, healthcare professionals and alumni)

## **Finances**

***Richard Hill (Treasurer)***

The main sources of income for United World Colleges Great Britain Ltd are application fees, orientation fees and general donations. (In 2014 we were awarded a grant from the British Council to run a UWC Short Course, which makes up the restricted fund)

The main expenditure is on selections activities, orientation and UWC GB volunteer and GB NC expenses, including travel to UWC Congress 2016.

### **Financial Year 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2017**

Total Income = £15,011.53

Total Expenditure = £15,502.64

Available Funds as of 1 April 2017 = £23,014.49 (£860.52 is restricted)

## Future Plans

UWC GB will continue to work on improving coordination and cooperation with Atlantic College staff in the key areas of admissions, publicity, fundraising and UWC community engagement in the UK. We will also endeavour to increase transparency about the availability of full scholarship, partial scholarship and fee-paying UWC places during the application process and work with the development team at AC to maximise scholarships for UK students.

We will continue to inform and involve the UWC community in the UK about our activities and promote membership of UWC GB to all that are eligible and want to get involved!

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