



International News from the UUA

www.uua.org/international

General Assembly 2011: Recap

The 50th anniversary of the UUA's General Assembly was a hub of activity on the international front.

With guests from over ten countries in attendance and numerous events, workshops, and celebrations, this year's proceedings were particularly historic.

Drawing over 4,000 attendees, this year's annual gathering lent itself to a deep sense of interconnectedness and high visibility of our international partners.

Highlights included: Rev. Kosho Niwano's (President-Designate of Rissho Kosei-kai) speech; a celebration of Michael Servetus; an International UU Worship Service; an interfaith dialogue with UUA President Rev. Peter Morales, Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, Rev. Kyoichi Sugino, and Karen Armstrong; and much more.

Read about the international goings-on at GA:
<http://bit.ly/IRO-GA2011>

UUA Hires New UU Holdeen India Program Director

It's a pleasure to announce that Mr. Derek Mitchell will serve as the new Director of the Unitarian Universalist Holdeen India Program (UUHIP) effective August 1, 2011. For the last nine years Derek has lived in India, exploring solutions to poverty and violence through research and work in strategic planning and evaluation for non-governmental organizations, labor unions, and human rights advocacy groups in India.

Read more at: <http://bit.ly/NewUUHIPDirector>

UU United Nations Office and the UUA

The UUA's Stewardship & Development Office released the following statement:

We are delighted to report that at this year's General Assembly in Charlotte, NC, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Unitarian Universalist (UU)-United Nations Office (with the strong support of the Canadian Unitarian Council), announced agreement on the terms of a merger of our international programs.

Apart from a closer relationship, a renewed commitment to speak with one, powerful voice in international affairs, the cost savings and the streamlining of the advocacy services we provide to UUs throughout the world, this move brings the benefit of our values to a world that sorely needs to hear from us!

Too often, we are the only voice in the international faith community willing to risk everything in defense of the world's most disadvantaged...the poor, the weak, the young, the old and those whose very lives are threatened by injustice and the quiet tyranny of silence. Amazingly, our advocacy often attracts others willing to follow UNO leadership who gain the strength to speak out from our example. Whether we are helping UN Member States understand the complexity of global climate change, the need to empower women and their families with education, health and equal rights, and most recently when we make clear our support of LGBT rights...the need of all individuals to be treated with dignity and respect, we are representing you in the world's most important international forum.

Continue reading this statement!

Read more at: <http://bit.ly/UU-UNOandUUA>

E-Newsletter from the UUA International Resource Office (IRO)

It can be challenging for congregational leaders to keep up-to-date on the latest news and resources for UU international engagement. Let the IRO help.

- If "breaking news" about UU international engagement is important to you.
- If you want to hear success stories from UU congregations that are engaging internationally
- If you're interested in resources that can help your congregation be effective in its international engagement
- If you want to make sure you receive the latest materials for including international elements in your congregation's worship services and RE programs
- If you're interested in the work of the multitude of international U/U organizations, and opportunities for collaboration.

Join the IRO's email list by visiting:
<http://bit.ly/UUAinews>

We'll send an email message to you twice each month with news and practical resources.

All are invited to sign up!

Upcoming Events

August 20-27, 2011:
UUSC-UUA JustWorks Youth Delegation to Haiti

September 8-19, 2011:
UUPCC Transylvania Quilting Retreat - Part 2

September 28-October 4, 2011:
Spiritual Journey in Tierra de Fuego, Argentina

November 4-6, 2011:
European Unitarian Universalist (EUU) Fall Retreat, Oberwesel, Germany

February 7-12, 2012:
ICUU Council Meeting & Conference, Philippines

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