On August 6th, UNA-GP’s board members met to discuss the state of affairs of the organization. With fourteen people in attendance, the room at the Friends Center was filled to capacity to discuss several matters, including the Garden Party held on July 29th, a proposed new position in UNA-GP, the treasurer’s report, and the many upcoming events planned for the following months.

The Garden Party was a smashing success, raising about $900 in much needed funds. The party also provided the organization with an opportunity to network, which could prove useful in planning and organizing future events. Filled with good food and good conversation, the party may become an annual tradition. The board thanks all the volunteers who made food or donated their time to help set up the party.

The discussion of the party also raised the topic of membership sign-up and whether or not there is a way to ease the process. In the future, UNA-GP would like to streamline the electronic sign-up or offer an option to sign up via the mail.

After the discussion of the party, Secretary and immediate past-President Christiaan Morssink introduced the topic of a new position within the organization to manage and supervise interns/co-op students as well as represent the chapter to the press and other organizations. After much discussion the position of Volunteer Executive Director was approved and Christiaan was nominated and then given the position with no objections. Congratulations Christiaan!

The Treasurer’s report was presented, with newly elected treasurer Nick Sanders giving the first of what he expects to be monthly reports on the state of the chapter’s finances. The UNA-GP began the process of switching to a new bank, which promises to ease the management of the chapter’s finances. After much discussion of the more technical aspects of the chapter’s finances, the board noted its appreciation for all of Treasurer Sanders’ hard work.

The meeting ended with a discussion of the roster of activities scheduled through December 2012. The UNA-GP is sponsoring or collaborating on an impressive list of events, including:

- The ICC Conference
- International Day of Peace
- World Food Day
- International Human Rights Day

The board discussed the chapter’s obligations and planning for each event, after which the meeting came to a close.
On Sunday, July 29th, we successfully hosted our Annual Garden Party. The party was a joyous occasion for all those in attendance, including the ones who were running it, especially myself and the other co-op students.

The weather was nice, a bit on the humid side but still bearable. Luckily, everyone dressed appropriately for the heat, and did so fashionably. Delicious homemade food was provided by Manisha Patel and Christiaan Morssink, while the bar kept everyone hydrated (and social).

The theme for this year's Annual Garden Party was Rio+20. This provided a topic of discussion for some in attendance but not all. Many of us enjoyed talking about recent personal endeavors and important current events.

As always, there was an information table at the party that included educational material pertaining to several different initiatives supported by the UNA-GP. One of these campaigns is called Shot@life, which works to vaccinate children in the Global South. To find out more, check out shot@life.org.
On July 16th, Bob Groves led a grant-writing workshop for the UNA-GP team. Bob has 40 years of experience in health and human services. His positions have included the CEO of the Philadelphia Senior Center and Executive Director of the Health Promotion Council of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Since Bob is a pro at grant writing, we invited him to give the interns an overview of the grant writing process.

UNA-GP volunteers learned about components of philanthropy such as grant-makers and current philanthropic trends. There is practically a whole new language within the world of grant writing for non-profits. Thankfully, Bob provided the team with some vocabulary, as well as tips on grant proposals and writing techniques for the interns to use in the future.

Team members went home with helpful samples of grant proposals and a basic overview of grant writing. The team looks forward to putting some of this new information to use! Bob has also kindly offered to instruct the new co-op students once they join us in September. Thank you, Bob!
Next month, Friday Sept 21st, is the International Day of Peace, celebrated in many places, commemorated in many more. Here in Philadelphia, a slew of events are being organized, and many of the individuals and groups involved are part of the Peace Day Philly Network, coordinated by Lisa Parker. Here are some useful links:

- **Video about Peace Day**: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dh9LH2jKJcc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dh9LH2jKJcc)
- **Upcoming events**: [http://www.peacedayphilly.org/events/](http://www.peacedayphilly.org/events/)

UNA-GP is sponsoring the bus that will bring high school students from the NW Park School for Peace and Social Justice to the celebration at the United Nations in New York. Through our Global Focal Point program and our Blue Shelf Program, we will be working with several schools to have a meaningful event. After the schools have opened again in a few weeks, the details will be finalized. Meanwhile, we have heard about, and support, an initiative organized by Rotary Madrugadores and Congreso at the Edison High School. That initiative has a Friday morning filled with films, speakers and group discussions, as well as a Peace Walk in the neighborhood on Saturday the 22nd. Edward Garcia of Congreso and Edi Chapman of Rotary are still working on the details. UNA-GP has offered assistance.

We hope that Peace Day Philly 2012 participation will be great throughout the city. Next to major events, we hope that many of you will do something special that day as well. What about decorating those coffee cup holders at the coffee shops with a peace symbol? Or, how about writing a personal reflection about peace not war for your child, your parent, your boss? I myself intend to bake a peace cake for the office, put some membership folders with it and wish my colleagues a Happy Peace Day.
1. **Breakthrough for Women in Senegal's Lower House**

Elections to the National Assembly, the lower of two houses of parliament, took place on July 1, and as a result, sixty-four women now have seats in this West African country’s 150-member National Assembly.


2. **This Global Financial Fraud and Its Gatekeepers**

The media's 'bad apple' thesis no longer works. We're seeing systemic corruption in banking – and systemic collusion.


3. **UN officials welcome ‘historic’ approval of new constitution for Somalia**

The overwhelming approval of a Provisional Constitution for Somalia by the representative body convened for that purpose is a key step toward ending the Horn of Africa country’s long transition to stable governance.


4. **As ECOSOC’s (The United Nations Economic and Social Council) annual substantive session ends, UN officials hail achievements**

ECOSOC wrapped up four weeks of high-level engagement and dialogue, review and deliberation, and decision-making on issues such as unemployment, women’s empowerment and information technology.


5. **Portugal's Innovative Drug Policy Offers Hope**

Portugal’s anti-drug policies have been gaining international visibility since this country began to publish the results of its 2001 decision to eliminate all criminal penalties for personal possession of drugs.


6. **World Heritage Site in Timbuktu attacked**

Tomb of revered Muslim in ancient town was attacked and burned by Islamist fighters said to be linked to al-Qaeda. This incident threatens to raise tensions that have been building between the people in Timbuktu and the Islamists who occupied the city in April.


7. **Connecting the Americas: Filling in the ICT Gaps.**

The next digital divide for Latin America & the Caribbean concerns Internet access and the many rural areas in the region that are still without it.


8. **India’s infrastructure: Blackout nation: Power cuts in India show that a lack of reform is beginning to hurt ordinary people**

The blackout will badly damage the country’s reputation, and highlights the rotten infrastructure that is hobbling its efforts to catch up with China.

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Convener of the American NGO coalition for the ICC (AMICCC)

CHRISTIAN WENAWESER
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Celebrating ten years of fighting impunity, the ICC will impact politicians and the voting public. Be part of the future, realize your potential, attend this special occasion when we celebrate Philadelphia’s claim on establishing the modern Rule of Law. Network with the best!!!

Great for all students, but a must for Law and Political Science.

SAVE THE DATE!
November 8th, 2012 at Temple Law School
Next Seminar Event
Guest Speaker:

SANJI MMASENONO MONAGENG
First Vice President of the ICC
Upcoming Events

September 20: **UN Café**: TBD


September (TBA): UNA-GP sponsors a **bus trip to the UN** for students of the High School for Peace and Social Justice (we seek special donations to offset the cost of $1,200 for this sponsorship).

October 16: **World Food Day**: event TBA.

October 24: **UN DAY**: Draft “linking the US Constitution with the “Culture” of the UN”; Is under development. Also under development soccer tournament, details to follow.

November (TBA): **Seminar ICC on Jurisprudence issues**, at Temple University.

December 10: **Celebrating UDHR.** Theme: “Universal” Health Care as a right; is it practical; is it doable? Stay tuned for details.