



**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA INC.**

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION Inc

ANNUAL REPORT

2004 - 2005

FIFTY FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

International Year of Microcredit

**International Year of Sport and
Physical Education**

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA Inc.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INC. 2004-2005

**PATRON Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC. CVO . M.B.E.
Governor of South Australia**

PRESIDENT Mrs. Heather Southcott A.M.

**VICE-PRESIDENTS Mr. John Crawford
Mrs. Sheila Hill A.M.
Mr Ron Hall**

SECRETARY Mrs Sheila Hill A.M.

TREASURER Mr John Crawford

**CORPORATE MEMBERS Catholic Women's League Miss Tess Donnellan
Aboriginal Advancement League Ms Wendy Koolmatrie
Baha'i Community Mrs. Manijeh Shahzadeh
Women's Int. League for Peace & Freedom Ms Ruth Russell**

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS Ms. Rosemary McKay
Mr Glen Woodward
Mrs. Sathavy Suos
Dr Ricky Lee
Br. Peter Faulkner**

UNYA representatives Mr Alex Rafalowicz ; Ms Penelope Wells

**CONTACTS UN Status of Women committee ; Mrs Pat Hardy ;Mrs Sheila Hill
UNYA Mr Alex Rafalowicz ; Ms Lucy Wells
Year of Community Mr Glen Woodward**

**OFFICE STAFF (volunteers) Mrs Cynthia James Mrs Sathavy Suos
Mrs Mabs Tassell Mr Ron Hall
Br Peter Faulkner Mr Richard Lutz**

PRESIDENT'REPORT --- Heather Southcott 2004-2005

We welcomed back Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the Bahai Community Council as corporate members of the executive. Their representatives Ruth Russell and Manijeh Shahdazeh have brought strength and energy to the committee. Geoff Dibdin who had represented the Bahai's for many years was unable to continue. However Geoff will continue as auditor of UNYA

We were saddened by the death of Ron Gray; a long term member and peace activist .Ron had become almost an institution in Adelaide
We welcomed some new members; we look forward to their contributions

UNYA and Status of Women Committee continue to be very active ; separate reports are included in this report. We thank them for their efforts.

Our financial situation is still somewhat precarious ; we need more members .

We thank the Premier of South Australia for the grant of \$6000 (+ gst) and for their subsidy of our rent in Torrens Building

Our financial situation was improved through a film night (organised by Status of Women c/tee) and a UN Day dinner at a Nepali restaurant Thanks to Rosemary McKay and Ricky Lee for organising the dinner and very successful Silent Auction.

We received a Multicultural grant for a TV presentation on " I Live in Adelaide"
We received a Small Equipment Grant for Volunteers for a Multifunctional Printer

We were disappointed that for a further year we have not received a grant from the Norman Percy Cole Trust. So we have not been able to contribute to Encouragement Grants for disadvantaged children during Children's Week.

We acknowledge assistance with photocopying from the offices of Senator Penny Wong and Ms Frances Bedford M.P Thank you.

Our speaker at the Annual General Meeting on 30 May 2004 was Br. Peter Faulkner, our environment convener who is very active including being an office volunteer

Glen Woodward continued to support our bid for an International Year of Community; Unfortunately it has not been supported by the Government. So, UNAA will introduce an Australian Year of Community in 2006

UN Human Rights Day was marked in Adelaide by a significant roundtable meeting on " Indigenous Human Rights in South Australia - Under the Spotlight "

We work closely with the Hawke Institute at University of S.A as they sponsor many events focussing on human rights and social justice issues. We were associated with groups in supporting the meeting addressed by Kirsty Sword Gusmao from East Timor.

We have worked with other groups on the International Year of Microcredit., and attended a training conference for teachers; Global Education has produced a teacher's resource on "Cowries, Cash, Credit and Microcredit." with assistance from AusAid.

We were represented at the 2004 Federal Conference on International Year of Rice theme and Federal Council meetings in Queensland by Heather Southcott, Ricky Lee, and Ron and Bev Hall. SA resolutions were on stateless persons, East Timor, and West Papua

A great deal of our time is spent on representing UNAA on networking committees.

- * Development Action Committee
- * Torrens Building Tenant Committee
- * Human Rights Day committee ; Coalition for Human Rights (Bill of Rights)
- * Children's Week Committee ; UNIFEM Breakfast committee (1550 attended with Mary Gaudron as speaker)

Our work is greatly augmented through networking.

We attended many events; Garden Party at Government House; and events organised by our association members e.g Baha'i events ; Catholic Women's League; YWCA We were represented at the UN Peacekeeper's Service at the War Memorial on UN Day The Adelaide City Council flew the UN flag on UN Day.

Special UN observances were promoted ; for example World Health Day on Road Safety

We continue to be well served by our volunteers; we could not manage without them. Some are long term (Cynthia James, Sathavy Suos, Ron Hall Mabs Tassell) and other have been with us for shorter times but bring special gifts (Richard Lutz , Peter Faulkner) Thank you all.

The State Government now recognises volunteers with special events focussed on Volunteers Day with recognition given to volunteers., including ours.

We promoted the sale of the special edition of the New Internationalist on UN at 60 at a greatly reduced cost.

We have continued to sell the World Peace badges and stickers produced by Franklin Scarf (UNAA NSW)

Finally; thanks to members who have supported us , especially through donations and to all members of the executive for their work. Special thanks to John Crawford (treasurer) and Sheils Hill (secretary) who also serve as vice-presidents.

In summary, the work achieved by UNAA (S.A.) is a result of good team work and networking and very loyal members.

REPORT TO
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA DIV) INC.
STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE - APRIL 2004 - MARCH 2005

We have again been a harmonious committee with all doing their part to make our endeavours successful. During the year we gained two new organisational members - Zonta and the Salvation Army and our core group is loyal a regular.

Our first activity was the **film night** at the end of May - again, all tickets were sold quickly, the two films "Sea Biscuit" and "A view from the Top" were well received as was the hot supper provided by the women of the Afghani community with whom I work. Over \$700 was raised for UNAA funds and, importantly, it was a great opportunity to raise the public profile of UNAA. Our thanks to all committee members for the hard work ticket selling, finding raffle prizes and making their own personal donations to the night if unable to be there.

It has been a quietly satisfactory year in which our major focus on the **Northfield Women's Prison**, its difficulties and community attitudes has gained momentum.

In June 2004 we invited Mr. Peter Severin, Chief Executive Officer in the Department of Correctional Services to speak at an open meeting with special emphasis on the women's prison. Co-hosting this with the National Council of women, we invited interested members of some other women's organisations in the city in order to start the debate. It was a very successful meeting facilitated by Glenys Jones of Business & Professional women from which a decision was made to go to the wider women's organisation network and host full public meeting. This second gathering would be held in May 2005 with speakers from all aspects of prison work.

In the meantime, our usual Committee visit to the Northfield prison was widened to include those from the meeting who needed an eye-opener! After discussion with the Prison Director, the word went out for funds to assist in the purchase of educational software for the computer classes. Catholic Women's League responded with donations from branches totaling \$400 and the requested math and English software was purchased and was quickly in use. We will again take additional numbers to the prison on an awareness visit following this second meeting

Two years ago UNAA SOW committee was the only women's group which had any contact with the women's prison. Now at least 4 groups and several individuals are supporting the staff there with help towards improving educational and recreational resources and generally lobbying where appropriate. There is still no sign of a new prison but it is still "on the agenda", mental health facilities are still non-existent (at the time of submitting this report however, there has been some improvement in this area) and remand and sentenced prisoners are still crowded together.

Womenspeak

Our Status of Women Committee is networked with that of Victoria to be one of the 33 women's organisations that contribute to the Womenspeak network which is funded by the Commonwealth Office of the Status of Women. The aim of this network is to work with the Office for Women to provide representative advice to the government on policy issues, development and implementation and to act as a conduit for the exchange of information between the Government and the women's sector.

A regional meeting was held in Adelaide on 25/26 February and was attended by 3 of our members. We are in regular contact with the present co-ordinators of Womenspeak - the YWCA - so are kept informed of issues and developments.

Premier's Council for Women

UNAA SOW was invited to contribute to the planning of the Statistical Profile - Women in SA. I attended this full day and spoke in the groups on human rights (women prisoners) and housing (particularly elderly). The research was published and launched in April and I noted a couple of my issues were included in the recommendations/comments.

International Women's Day

Almost all committee members attended either the UNIFEM breakfast or the Lunch (or both) and it was a good opportunity to meet others and exchange views.

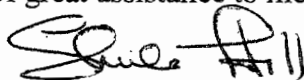
Financial

As our financial reporting and that of UNAA SA do not coincide perhaps all that needs to be said is that we are always financial with a balance of around \$400. Our only expenses are the cost of renting the NSW room bi-monthly and the secretary's admin expenses which are very small. Income comes from member subscriptions and any for specific projects is forwarded directly to the recipient or project co-ordinator.

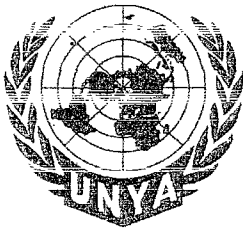
Representation

Although we meet at our own committee meeting bi-monthly, good contact is kept through e-mail, but more often through the myriad of events in the city at which our members are present and on which they report. We fly the flag well.

Again, I thank all members of my committee for their constant support and enthusiasm and in particular my Secretary Pat Hardy, and her standby Alleyne Walmesly, for their expertise and Heather Southcott for her intimate knowledge of people and events which is of great assistance to me. My term will again be up in August and then we shall see.



Sheila Hill AM
President
29 May 2005



UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

UNAA REPORT: MAY 2005

Overview

UNYA SA is a 'young' division that has been rebuilding for a couple of years. The work done by Emily Hunt, Brendan Lim and Penny Wells is now bearing the fruit of new, and active members. We have a strong executive, which is slightly inexperienced, who are passionate about UNYA and will hopefully continue with the association to ensure that SA has a strong UNYA for the betterment of young people everywhere!

Events

- **Barossa UN Day**

An exciting new event for the UNYA (SA) calendar was this year's inaugural Barossa UN Day (affectionately dubbed BUN day) at Faith Lutheran Secondary School on the 2nd of April 2004. This event was organised by our co-opted Barossa Representative, Dani Bailey and another Barossa executive member, Karin Holzkecht. This event is a key ingredient in our aim to reach more schools and more areas in South Australia. As the day was scheduled in Youth Week, we were unable to target students from a couple of schools, however they expressed their interest in being involved in coming years.

The day introduced delegates to the UN, its makeup and processes; they were given a talk by a young member of the Barossa community who has worked a lot with World Vision; and of course were thrown in to debating two resolutions in a mock session of the General Assembly. This event was doubly successful, as we were able to draw more students from here to the State Conference.

- **State Conference 04**

The state conference this year was held on the 24th and 25th of April 2004 at Annesley College in Adelaide. The use of the hall at Annesley was kindly donated, and we hope to continue this excellent relationship for further activities.

The first day saw students listening to a lecture from Mr Grant Niemann, a lecturer in Law at Flinders University. Mr Niemann has been a prosecutor for both Nazi and Yugoslavian war crimes, and has a long history of experience with the UN. His lecture was very well received by the delegates, and he answered a myriad of questions. Students participated in small workshop groups about Mr. Niemann's lecture, human rights and recent 'actions' of the UN.

The second day was comprised of debate, all delegates participating in 5 mock sessions of the UN General Assembly. Debate was of a very high standard, and the students were congratulated on their level of research, participation and commitment to the day's activities.

10 Delegates were chosen (through interview process on the Sunday evening) to attend the 43rd UNYA National Youth Conference to be held in Melbourne this July

- **Boutros-Ghali Shield 04**

The previous executive decided to hold the BGS in August to avoid exam crushes, the AFL grand final and to allow for a more event-friendly October-December. This decision appears to have been a success. We had the biggest turn out in 4 years (15 teams) and selected two competent teams to compete at Evatt. The winning teams came from two schools which have never been involved with UNYA before and is a good example of UNYA SA broadening its appeal.

The skill level was slightly down on previous years but this is perhaps due to a lack of preparation and training events, something easily rectified by better planning. The students were interested in UNYA but we still struggle to convert competitors into active members. We heavily plugged next years' state conference and we hope that after that event they may consider joining UNYA.

Being a 'young' division our ability to devise resolutions is quite limited as few of us have had much experience. For this reason we tend to re-hash older resolutions or dumb-down proper UN ones. This can often lead to unsatisfactory debate and is something that could be remedied nationally.

- **School Mock GAs**

In September two new UNYA members Long Qui and Kit took it upon themselves to organise mock GAs for their schools. Long Qui's event drew almost 30 people from the Trinity Colleges in Adelaide's north. These schools have had a relatively short involvement with UNYA in the past and the enthusiastic response of the students bodes well for State Conference next year.

Kit organised a GA not just for her school but for the Independent Schools Association + Others. This event drew 25 students with only 3 having attended an UNYA event previously. The event also introduced UNYA to several of Adelaide's more established debating schools which will hopefully raise the standard of participation at the State Conference next year.

At both MUNs the accessibility of resolutions at the level of the participants was an issue. (see above recommendation)

- **Human Rights Policy Evening**

Lucy Wells as SA VP and Policy Coordinator ran a well attended policy evening with pizza to feed into Roshena's meeting with DFAT. Several UNYAns 'returned from the dead' and brought fresh opinions and enthusiasm to the debate. This types of evening, with a strict focus, seems to be the most effective way of drawing both members and achieving tangible outcomes – in this case the succinct recommendations.

- **Hawke Lecture 04**

Each year the Hawke Centre at Uni SA hosts a memorial lecture for the former-PM with a focus on international affairs. UNYA SA has developed a good

not feel that the government's stance on

- Guantanamo Bay detainees
- Mandatory, indefinite detention of asylum seekers
- the Israel Palestine Wall

undermines our creditability in dealing with other international abuses of human rights?"

The answer to this was "no." He elaborated a little bit... talking about our good reputation internationally (cough), how we helped in lots of conflict resolution and how hard Mike Smith was working in Geneva etc... it was really funny because the audience wouldn't have a bar of what Downer was saying ... tee hee.

After it finished, Peter Geytenbeek (guy who asked the second question) was outside and some lady came up to him and said: "wow - my confidence in the youth of Australia has been restored after tonight. Well done young man!" (or something to that effect)

I think it was a really worthwhile night for all involved... it certainly raised UNYA's profile in SA, infact after Downer's answer to Peter's question, Natasha Stott-Despoja took the microphone and suggested we were to have our funding cut! Downer laughed and mentioned his support of the Youth Rep. Some members of UNYA may have yelled from the audience that UNYA is not funded at all by the government. This caused Kevin Rudd to ask (sans microphone) several members of UNYA SA executive what funding we received. Alex replied that UNYA gets no funding despite the recommendation of the senate committee.

...

Alex spoke to Natasha Stott-Despoja afterwards and she talked of being 'pleased to see UNYA still present and active at such an event.'

- **General Meeting on October 31**

This meeting was only attended by three general members, which was disappointing. It was a very productive meeting which in practical terms functioned like an executive meeting. Perhaps the message to take from the turn-out is that most members are more interested in what UNYA can offer them in terms of policy days, education forums and opportunities as opposed to the chance to run an association for little respect and appreciation. Which is completely fine but it means that in the future we need to redirect the focus of our general meetings.

- **Christmas Party!**

I couldn't attend due to other commitments but I hear that all had a 'heaps good' time.

- **International Youth Leadership Event (IYLE)**

The state government through its Social Inclusion Unit ran this conference in early march. Of the 250 delegates, 29 were members of UNYA, with 7 South Australians attending. It was an enjoyable event, although UNYA approached it with some scepticism and jealousy (it's the type of event we'd love to run but we

relationship with the centre and the president received an official invite (Penny took it to further UNYC prospects). At least 15 UNYAnS attended to hear Irene Khan's speech titled 'Security for whom?' Ms. Khan then ran a workshop focussing on the human rights of women across the world. UNYA SA subsidised Diana to attend the workshop in her position as National Health and Social Development Policy Coordinator. Her report stated that the workshop was tedious and delivered little useful information or inspiration for UNYA.

- **Foreign Policy Election Debate**

Below are extracts from Lucy's report on the pre-election forum:

"On Wednesday 29th of September UNYA SA had its very last minute policy night to prepare for the OXFAM Community Aid Abroad panel discussion – "Human Security for a Safer World" - which was really successful for the amount of notice that our general members had! We had about 17 general members at the policy event - where we prepared questions for the 4 politicians, and then at the Convention Centre there was a turn out of 35 to 40 of us.

Before the night we devised critical questions for each of the speakers. We then randomly divided the questions allowing the luck of the draw to dictate which of our questions would get asked.

There were over 600 people at the event and everyone wanted to ask questions it was hard to get at the microphones... but yay! 2 UNYA questions were asked."

qn 1 - (to Downer)– "Mr. Downer you have criticised specifically the ALP, and I would assume also the other parties present, of advocating a 'cut and run' stance in Iraq, which is one that you cannot support, however, I recall when the ambassador of Afghanistan was here begging that we maintain our force in that country that you pulled out of our commitments there. So how was that 'cut and run' different to the policy advocated by the other parties here tonight?"

Strangely (or maybe not...) Downer admitted that we did indeed cut and run from Afghanistan...he accused our questioner of having double standards (referring to Iraq) and sort of missed the point of the qn (on purpose) and talked about how we wouldnt cut and run from Iraq ... Rudd commended the question and talked of the danger that Afghanistan posed to world security due to it being a breeding ground for terrorists (and opium which supplies money to terrorists). However, he did not say the ALP would do anything about it."

This was the second question asked of the evening... and the first one with substance... congratulations to David Pearson. However, it is worth noting that this question was not drafted by the general members of UNYA SA. Seeing David at the event I asked what question he was going to ask and said it would be ok for him to include UNYA in his introduction. This decision was ratified by a quorum of the UNYA SA executive, however, in hindsight perhaps we should not have allowed a question which in its delivery appeared so partisan.

"Question 2 - (to downer) "In the context of Australia's CHR presidency, do you

- **MEC Human Rights Day**

The Multicultural Education Committee has approached UNYA SA to run its Human Rights days. This is a significant partnership for UNYA SA as it gives us the opportunity to use many of our education initiatives with a diverse group of young people. The other excellent thing about this relationship is that it provides UNYA SA with legitimacy in the eyes of education providers across the state AND all the admin work for the events are done by MEC, which is a relief for us.

The first Human Rights Workshop was an excellent example of the work that UNYA SA does. There were approximately 50 students from yr2 – yr12 participating in a discussion of human rights and then formulating a list of rights that they deserved at school and in their communities. We are looking forward to the next round in August, where we will be travelling to the South-East to run the workshop for regional youth.

Upcoming Events

- **Defining and Re-Defining Sovereignty: The Situation in West Papua**
To be held at the Lizard Lounge on Wednesday June 1st at 6pm. Speaker TBC.

- **UNYA SA Movie Night**

This is a fundraiser for the delegates attending the National Conference. It will be held at Greater Union on Hindley Street and will probably be in the afternoon. The film is *Mr and Mrs. Smith*, we'll buy a couple of group tickets and then sell them on at regular price, making a small profit. All are encouraged to attend!

- **UNYA National Council**

UNYA national council will be held in Adelaide from July 6-9 culminating in UNYA Australia's AGM on Saturday 9th in the evening. The Torrens Building will be the venue (I've already booked the rooms out for those days!)

- **The 44th United Nations Youth Association's National Youth Conference**
July 10th – 17th at St. Mark's College and Adelaide University. Please find Penny's report attached.

Membership

In my short time as President there have been two central issues relating to membership. The first is the manner in which membership inquiries are responded to. The second is finding ways of engaging older members of UNYA (whether recently joined or not, I'm talking about people out of school).

I attempt to call any person who expresses interest in UNYA as soon as possible. I usually give them the low-down and encourage them to send their \$15 into the office. Problems occur when the only contact detail is a mobile, as I generally cannot afford to contact mobiles. Or when they are not home and I am required to ring later. Unfortunately if I don't get through the first time their application slips my mind and

it is unlikely they will receive any contact from me unless they email me directly. If I cannot get through by phone I TRY and write an email as soon as possible but I've found the 'hit-rate' using this method is significantly lower.

One of my goals for this term is to establish UNYA clubs at all of South Australia's universities. I envisage these clubs to be the means through which tertiary students, who have not had an MDA or even a state level event experience can find UNYA to be relevant. I would hope that these clubs could organise inter-varsity (that sounds cooler than inter-uni) competitions, policy nights and at Flinders University we are in negotiations with Ricky Lee (staff member and UNAA member) to explore the possibility of launching a Jessup team.

Adelaide Uni has established its club with Lucy as President and a smattering of randoms as its membership. The Flinders club will be established in the new year. We are still searching for an UNYA member to establish the club at Uni SA but Mandy has expressed interest. We are concerned that the introduction of 'anti-student legislation' may inhibit our ability to establish these clubs in the future and we realise that amendments will need to be made to affiliate these clubs to UNYA SA. If any divisions have similar constitutional situations I would be delighted to have a little looksie.

Education

As a part of our planning for the future the executive decided to start work on a schools and education pack that UNYA SA could use well into the future. The National Education Pack was used as a base and Alex (as Education Tsar), Long Qui and Laura have made great progress. The schools' pack is mainly complete and over the next few months it is hoped we will be able to gather material to fit out the education pack.

Also the division could use some assistance as to how best promote such a pack to schools.

Policy

Lucy has made great bounds in the promotion of policy within South Australia and I think the two successful policy forums are a testament to her work. However, as a division we are concerned about the focus on a national hierarchy of policy. I realise the previous two policy coordinators for Health and Social Development have been from South Australia and it is disappointing that neither were particularly active at a state level. But it seems that policy is almost too 'top-down' for it to be easily promoted within South Australia. Whilst we realise that individual policy captains within individual divisions would not be feasible. To get UNYA's message out I think that the divisions would be more successful if divisional reps were given greater control in terms of approaching media organisations, local NGOs and local MPs etc.

REGIONAL UNYA

Although Dani suggested she would be happy to continue in her position as Barossa Rep on the executive she has been uncontactable (although I haven't been the most

consistent caller) recently. Hopefully in the new year we can renew our connection to the Barossa and can work toward creating better connections with schools in the South East.

UNAA

Our relationship with UNAA seems satisfactory. They are always very supportive of our events and very approachable. To be honest I did not realise the commitment required in terms of time spent in the UNYA/UNAA office before becoming president. The office is still a bit of a foreign beast to me but I am gradually overcoming my phobia. UNAA has not complained as yet and Penny did forge a very reasonable rapport with UNAA SA President. Heather. I don't think I've quite drained this 'political capital' as yet. My aim for the next six months is to try and reconnect with UNAA by attending more of their meetings and spending more time in the office. The realistic chance of this occurring is not particularly high, however I will definitely try.

Website

Our master of the web, Zander, has done a wonderful job creating any easy to access page. Besides being accessible all the page requires is some recent pictures, which we collected at the State Conference and BGS. Zander had also created a magnificent website for the National Conference: www.unya.asn.au/unyc2005

Relationship with National UNYA

From me perspective UNYA SA has a healthy relationship with other divisions and the national executive. Ravi as treasurer has been most approachable and has assisted Joe in finding his feet as divisional treasurer. Furthermore his response to Brendan's request for ALP Nat Conference reimbursement was much appreciated. Ben has also been a very effective secretary responding to my simple questions with disarming charm. Travers' recent visit and his general guidance have also been appreciated. I should have contacted El regarding the divisional problems with policy but I'm sure we can have a nice chat during our time at National Council.

The only minor strain on UNYA's relationship with other divisions has been the organisation of Evatt. Whilst this is partly our responsibility, the parents at our end did get slightly annoyed at the delays in delivering information about the competition. I appreciate we should have been more pro-active in terms of providing basic guidelines and letters to the parents and this will be my recommendation to the next SA Evatt Delegation Head, however, we were waiting for the lead to come from Queensland. To be fair to Tristan, he did make contact with me at an early stage regarding the delays and that was appreciated, but the reality was that we found it hard at times to explain our position to naturally concerned parents.

Youth Rep

We tried as a division to advertise the Youth Rep where possible and succeed in postering both Adelaide and Flinders Universities as well as contacting students by email. The Office of Youth also emailed out the flyer to their registered 'active and interested' young people. I am unsure as to how the process has worked in the past

but advertising in the lead up to exams put pressure on us as a division in terms of promoting, as well as limiting the number of people who actually considered the position.

UNYA SA also congratulates Thao on her selection and commends her on her excellent work in the position.

National Conference and The Future

I believe it is important to note that the conference is affecting the way the division is planning. I am assisting Penny where I can and for a small division like SA it is not possible for us to organise a National Conference and to carry doing other 'business as usual.' For this reason we ran our State Conference very early in the year.. It is hoped that in this time the University Clubs will begin to become active so that after July next year UNYA SA has a group of high-school students invigorated by a successful UNYC and a group of tertiary students just beginning to explore the wonderful opportunity that is UNYA.

Thankyous

A big thankyou to all the active UNYA SA members who have worked hard over the last couple of months. A bigger thank you to Dough for his work convening BGS and for all his work in UNYA over the years. Of course, the biggest thank you goes out to Penny for all her guidance and assistance and for combining the mother-henness of Emily with the know everythingness of Brendan.