



PROGRESS REPORT

UNITED NATIONS INTELLECTUAL HISTORY PROJECT / UNIHP

no. 10 December 2008

PUBLICATIONS

In 2008 the project published two more volumes in the UNIHP series by Indiana University Press: in April *Preventive Diplomacy at the UN* by Bertrand G. Ramcharan; and in September, *The UN and Transnational Corporations: From Code of Conduct to Global Compact* by Tagi Sagafi-nejad, in collaboration with John Dunning.

Three other volumes are currently in production and will be published in 2009: *The UN and Development: From Aid to Cooperation* by Olav Stokke; the project's capstone volume, *UN Ideas That Changed the World*, written by the project's co-directors, Richard Jolly, Louis Emmerij, and Thomas G. Weiss; and *The UN and Global Governance: An Unfinished Journey*, by Thomas G. Weiss and Ramesh Thakur. *The UN and the Global Commons: Development Without Destruction* by Nico Schrijver is nearly ready for the production process and also will be published in late 2009 or early in 2010. Quality-control meetings, internal and external fact-checking, and indices are part of this process.

In addition to critical reviews by the three co-directors, peer reviews were conducted in the following manner: *UN Ideas That Changed the World* was discussed at length with a small group of reviewers including four UNIHP authors who participated in the April 2008 conference in Helsinki, "UN Ideas in Action: Past, Present, Future;" *The UN and Global Governance* was the subject of peer review in July 2008 in New York; and *The UN and the Global Commons: Development Without Destruction* underwent peer review and was the subject of a quality control meeting in September 2008 in New York (and will also be more briefly reviewed again early in 2009)

The project's co-directors spent a week together in May at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's Pocantico Conference Center in Tarrytown, New York, where they integrated the comments that they had received from reviewers into a final manuscript for *UN Ideas That Changed the World*. As may be clear from the above descriptions, the bulk of the co-directors' time was spent in finalizing the penultimate and final drafts for this book.

WEBSITE

The project has hired Winterhouse (<http://winterhouse.com>) to extensively redesign and reorganize its website, and implement a new content management system which will facilitate a more dynamic presentation of information. Staff worked closely with the consultants on redesign and various enhancements; the new website is expected to be

operational by May 2009. In addition to refreshing the content on the website, the redesign is also part of an effort to make sure that once the project is finished, the wealth of information collected during its tenure will be archived in an easy to use format that will be available for future scholars, policy-makers, journalists, and other interested persons. The project's website will be integrated into a thoroughly redesigned site for the host institution, the Bunche Institute.

ORAL HISTORY

Although the oral history phase of the project is completed, we continue to distribute the CD-ROM as widely as possible, and encourage use of the oral history interviews by writers and researchers around the world.

The event in Helsinki permitted the project's co-directors to showcase efforts for a large public audience.

Plans are currently in progress for the permanent storage of the UNIHP interview tapes with the Columbia University Oral History Research Office.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

The project continues to disseminate UNIHP research, ideas, and publications in order to encourage discussion and debate, and inspire further research on UN history. With the production and publication of the last four books, UNIHP will focus the bulk of its future efforts on the dissemination of findings from the duration of the project; in particular, the co-directors will be producing short policy briefs and power point presentations, in addition to planning and participating in meetings worldwide. This effort began in earnest in the second half of the year with a renewed grant that has funds earmarked for such dissemination efforts. Details are below.

Future Planning

A major planning effort is underway by the co-directors to translate an earlier set of recommendations by a dissemination specialist into a viable dissemination program, including efforts to raise the visibility of the project through international efforts to promote the project's capstone volume, *UN Ideas That Changed the World*, written by the project's co-directors, Richard Jolly, Louis Emmerij, and Thomas G. Weiss. The co-directors will highlight the findings of the book at a series of launch events and meetings on multiple continents, beginning in New York City at the UN in September 2009 in the week preceding the opening of the General Assembly. The project has hired the independent publicist Susan Weinstein who will focus on

setting up interviews with media and placing reviews in magazines and newspapers for the book.

Thomas G. Weiss, President of the International Studies Association (ISA) for 2009, will draw on the capstone volume for his presentations at two ISA regional conferences in Santiago and Rio, and will follow up by writing an article for the journal, *Global Policy*.

2008 Activities

In addition to the presentations made by UNIHP authors listed below, on 24-25 April the project co-organized a two-day workshop, “UN Ideas in Action: Past, Present, Future,” in Helsinki with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The focus of the first day was a review meeting attended by a small group of commentators to discuss the penultimate draft of the final project synthesis volume, *UN Ideas Changing History*, being written by the project’s co-directors, Louis Emmerij, Richard Jolly, and Thomas G. Weiss. The second day featured public presentations for academics, public officials, NGOs, and the media that were organized around the conclusions of four of the project’s books, with presentations by their authors: Devaki Jain (Women and Development), S. Neil MacFarlane (Human Security), B. G. Ramcharan (Preventive Diplomacy), and Sarah Zaidi (Human Rights).

Additional UNIHP-related seminars and presentations included:

Paris, France, 17-18 January 2008 International Science Committee for the UNESCO History Project

Based on UNIHP experience to date, Thomas G. Weiss made suggestions for “UNESCO and the Cold War,” “UNESCO and Issues of Colonization and Decolonization,” and “Towards the Transnational History of International Organizations”—the topics for coming conferences as part of UNESCO’s History Project.

Helsinki, Finland, 22 April 2008 University of Helsinki

Devaki Jain gave a public lecture on “Women, Development and the UN;” “Strategies for Feminist Intervention in Public Policy;” and “The Indian Macro Economic Planning Process.”

San Francisco, 26-29 April 2008 International Studies Association, 49th Annual Meeting

Based on the forthcoming publication in *Global Governance* (vol. 15, no. 1, January 2009), Thomas G. Weiss presented “The ‘Third’ United Nations,” which

will be a major element and finding in the project’s final volume.

Turku, Finland, 27 April 2008 National Committee for UNIFEM in Finland

Devaki Jain was the Special Speaker at the meeting of the National Committee for UNIFEM in Finland. She gave a presentation on “The Role of UN Organs in National Development.”

Oxford, United Kingdom, 1 May 2008 Trinity Term Seminar Series, International Gender Studies Centre

Devaki Jain gave a talk on “How Women do Development: Feminist Economists Influence India’s Eleventh Five Year Plan” at the University of Oxford.

Washington, D.C., 12 May 2008 The World Congress of Statistics

Michael Ward was invited to address the Opening Session of The World Congress of Statistics, where he gave the talk “The Quiet Triumph of the UN Statistical System.” The paper he presented will be included in a selected “Collection of Papers” from the Congress to be published.

Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 24 May 2008 National Sun Yat Sen University

Tagi Sagafi-nejad gave a lecture on “Multinational Corporations, Scandals, Codes and Controls,” based on his forthcoming book, *The UN and Transnational Corporations: From Code of Conduct to Global Compact* at the National Sun Yat Sen University in Taiwan.

Bonn, Germany, 5-7 June 2008 ACUNS 2008 Annual Meeting, “The UN and the Global Development Architecture”

Richard Jolly was the keynote speaker at the 2008 ACUNS Annual Meeting, giving a presentation entitled “Discoveries from the UN Intellectual History Project, 1999-2008.” Thomas G. Weiss, the chair of the Board of Directors, participated with Jolly in an open discussion of the project’s findings.

New York, New York, 17 June 2008 UNU-UN Midday Forum: “Preventive Diplomacy at the UN”

Drawing from his recently published book, *Preventive Diplomacy at the UN*, Bertrand G. Ramcharan traced the progression of preventive diplomacy at the UN, highlighting its strengths and weaknesses, and commented on the prospects for preventive diplomacy in

the current era dominated by the new challenges of genocide and terrorism.

**Geneva, Switzerland, 24 -28 June 2008
EADI General Conference**

Louis Emmerij spoke about “The Future of Ideas in the UN” at the EADI General Conference in Geneva from 24 to 28 June 2008.

**Warsaw, Poland, 28 September - 2 October 2008
Polish Institute of International Affairs, School of
Economics of Warsaw University**

Drawing on UNIHP findings, Louis Emmerij gave presentations about the evolving nature of economic and social development strategies at the Polish Institute of International Affairs and at the School of Economics of Warsaw University.

**Budapest, Hungary, 6-8 October 2008
Hungarian Academy of Science, The Budapest School
of Economics**

Louis Emmerij presented UNIHP findings about the evolving nature of economic and social development strategies at the Hungarian Academy of Science and at the Budapest School of Economics.

**Sofia, Bulgaria, 10 October 2008
Bulgarian Academy of Science**

Louis Emmerij gave a talk at the Bulgarian Academy of Science about the evolving nature of economic and social development strategies, which drew on UNIHP’s findings and conclusions.

**The Hague, The Netherlands, 16 October
Institute of Social Studies**

Richard Jolly spoke at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague on human development and basic needs, in a seminar marking the election to a professorship of Professor Rolph van der Hoeven.

**New York, New York, 18 November 2008
Carnegie Corporation of New York**

Thomas G. Weiss and Sir Brian Urquhart gave a talk entitled, “What’s Wrong with the United Nations and How to Fix It,” hosted by Vartan Gregorian at the Carnegie Corporation.

**Santiago, Chile, 25 November 2008
The Economic Commission for Latin America and
the Caribbean**

Tagi Sagafi-nejad gave a lecture based on his recently published book, *The UN and Transnational*

Corporations: From Code of Conduct to Global Compact.

**Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5 December
Redistribution with Growth Seminar**

Richard Jolly drew on UNIHP findings for his keynote address at a seminar on Redistribution with Growth.

**The Hague, The Netherlands, 11-12 December 2008
Conference and Master Class**

On 11 December Thomas G. Weiss gave a presentation on the UN Intellectual History Project for a master class at Leiden University, organized by UNIHP author Nico Schrijver. On 12 December he gave a talk on “The UN and Global Values” for the international conference, “The United Nations and the Evolution of Global Values,” organized by Leiden University at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

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