

Newsletter

50 The United World College in Mostar
School year 2018/2019



Contents

50

NEWS

- 2. Introduction meetings with key figures in the City of Mostar
- 3. Induction week 2018
- 4. UWC Day
- 6. European Resarchers' Night in Mostar

COLLEGE EVENTS

- 9. Project Week
- 12.Challenge History Summer School
- 12.Impact Study
- 12.Residence News
- 13.Marking the month of breast cancer awareness
- 13.Foundation Education in Action and UWC Mostar among the first recipients of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) grant scheme
- 13.Short Course "Bridging Cultures"
- 14.France 24, BBC and NYT at UWC Mostar
- 14.Voluntary Blood Donation Action - Saving Lives
- 14.Visit by Czech delegation
- 14.College Fair
- 15.Donations from friends
- 15.Environmental CAS action

ALUMNI STORIES

- 18. Alumni News
- 18. Alumni Board Members
- 20. REUNION 10 - 10 years of educating for peace
- 21. UWC Mostar Alumna, founder of Women's League at Oklahoma University

Cover photo by David Busley.

INTRODUCTION MEETINGS WITH KEY FIGURES IN THE CITY OF MOSTAR



As part of the introduction of UWC Mostar's new Headteacher to the City of Mostar, Mark Feltham has met with key figures in the life of the city. This has included the Heads of the Gimnazija, the Mayor, Chief of Police and also the leaders of the religious communities. They provided interesting contexts and perspectives to deepen the understanding of the tensions that exist. The religious leaders welcomed Mark's initiative and spoke openly about how best to integrate the communities in Mostar and promote interfaith dialogue and intercultural understanding. Opportunities may arise down the line for UWC Mostar to promote and facilitate such dialogues, particularly

with the young members of each community who rarely get a chance to meet with the segregated schooling system that is in place. Though UWC is in essence a secular organisation, in terms of promoting peace and progress Mark is keen to explore a range of avenues. Second part of the introductory meetings included a meeting with the Federal Minister of Education and Science Ms Elvira Dilberović and Head of the Agency for pre-primary, primary and secondary education Ms. Maja Stojkić. A future cooperation was discussed and both Ms. Dilberović and Ms Stojkić expressed support for UWC Mostar's work, promotion of scholarships in BiH and future plans.



INDUCTION WEEK 2018

In August 2018, UWC Mostar welcomed 101 new student from 53 countries of the world. This years' Induction week included many new segments and lots of fun for our firsties. In addition to the academic and CAS fair, parents' meetings, workshops on health and mental health and the traditional Kravica waterfalls visit, our students spent their week enjoying the city of Mostar, exercising in cooperation with our friends from the sports academy "Little Bridge" and they also enjoyed a wonderful welcoming ceremony with a programme prepared by our second years. UWC Mostar Headteacher Mark Feltham joined the students in their activities and together with the staff welcomed the 13th generation of students to Mostar.



UWC DAY IN MOSTAR - INSPIRE CHANGE!

The annual global celebration of the UWC mission and values, which takes place on 21 September every year, to coincide with the UN World Peace Day. Each year, UWC Day is celebrated by over 5,000 people, including students and staff at the UWC schools and colleges, national committees and alumni and friends around the world. "Inspire Change!" is the theme under which the

UWC community celebrated our day this year. UWC Day is a moment to celebrate the strength and diversity of the UWC movement and our mission of acting as a force for peace and a sustainable future. It is an opportunity to connect and mobilise the UWC family globally. But it is also an opportunity to challenge and reflect on what we do as a movement, and to spread the

word about UWC and the UWC values. UWC Mostar traditionally organised the event "Around the world in 80 minutes". This traditional event is focused on presenting the countries and students of the college, their traditions, customs, music, cuisine and much more. This event is well received by the local community and has become a part of September events in the City of Mostar for everyone to enjoy.



EUROPEAN RESEARCHERS' NIGHT

The European Researchers' Nights have been organised every September since 2005. Some of the past events have received national prizes. In 2015, the event celebrated its 10th anniversary. In 2017 about 1.1 million citizens and over 21 000 researchers took part in these scientific events.

The events showcase what researchers really do for society in interactive and engaging ways, promoting research careers to young people and their parents. Fight cancer, stop global warming, prevent hunger and drought, invent devices for disabled people, and make human life easy in space! Aims:

- To bring researchers closer to the general public and to shape deeper connection between research and entrepreneurship, through an increased awareness of research and innovation potentials in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- To enhance researchers' public recognition;
- To increase awareness about research results, especially regarding the well-being in daily lives of citizens
- To stimulate interest in research careers, in particular, amongst young people facing a career choice.

The project also pursued some more specific objectives, namely:

- To illustrate the fun and fascinating aspects of research;
- To point out the importance of European support in favour of researchers and research and stressing the importance of European and international cooperation in research

Mostar has been the host of the Researchers' Night for the fifth time making this event a traditional one just like in Sarajevo and Banja Luka. Project partner in Mostar, UWC Mostar organized the ERN 2018 in three different locations, this year focusing on the introduction of the Science Fair for the first time.

Communicating achievements in science to the community is very important. And not just your science community but your local community as well.

Moreover, by communicating scientific research results with colleagues in the scientific and local community, scientist allow themselves to receive credit for doing the work, connect with others doing similar work thereby leading to new collaborations, and establish results within the scientific knowledge base that future research will be built upon.

So during this interactive event we had the pleasure of meeting some of the best scientist and researches from this part of our country, learn new things, have fun and – interact.

Favourite segments of the ERN in Mostar 2018 according to our survey:

COOL EXPERIMENTS

'Why is the sky blue?' and 'Where do stars come from?' Well, science has all the answers and is the perfect subject to complement a child's natural curiosity. With cheerful experiments in biology, physics, chemistry we have sparked ideas in and encouraged our visitors' minds that they, too, may one day be capable of creating solutions to big problems such as reducing climate changes or protecting the biodiversity in our country.

CSI SIMULATION

No, we were not in the same room with Horatio in Miami or Las Vegas, we were in Mostar! This fun, interactive presentation included step by step guide, lab documents and evidence file - all done by the amazing UWC Mostar science team!

It was a perfect opportunity to step in the shoes of a victim, police investigator



3D PRINTING AND INNOVATIONS – INTERA TECHNOLOGY PARK, CODE HUB

Yes, it is true. 3D printing always attracts a lot of attention. Different participants – students, children, innovators, designers, or simply digital fabrication technology lovers, had the opportunity to learn about practical aspects and innovative applications of these technologies in business and education, as well as in the global expansion technology and science.

These additive technologies are opening possibilities for individual production, while 3D printers demonstrated that only sky was the limit, as they were already printing everything – from industrial parts to figurines, toys and clothing, to houses. With the help of INTERA and Code Hub all of us had an opportunity to experience the amazing world of 3D printing.

ZOO EXHIBITION

Over 50 fascinating objects from taxidermy and photography revealed the hierarchies of the natural world. Discovering the intricate biology, zoology and physiology of the world's most spectacular creatures - both large and small was featured at the annual exhibition by University of Džemal Bijedić in Mostar

BEST HIGH SCHOOL SCIENTIFIC PROJECT

This year we had 10 best high school teams competing for the first prize! The panel of expert judges had quite a task to perform and select the top three.

or a guilty person. With the help of activity leaders our visitors were a part of an actual crime scene simulation and, yes, solved the case in the end.

PRESENTATION OF ROBOTS, ROBOTIC TEAMS AND ROBOTIC AND MATH WORKSHOPS

Robotics has been a favourite activity every year for parents who want their children to learn technology at an early age. In workshops like these, children are presented with complex ideas to apply in robotics. Yet, the teaching method is made simple to understand. Children are

innately inquisitive and their curiosity brings them to different discoveries, one of which is how robots work. Through Lego Robotics workshops, CERIT robot presentations and Imicron Math Solutions children had an opportunity to immerse into to world of robotics and fun math solutions.

Robotics workshops and Imicron fun math solutions served as platforms for enhancement of problem solving skills, strategic thinking, improving concentration and attention and developing creative thinking skills, at the same time enhancing knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).



First place went to the Secondary medical school team and their project: "Chemical and microbiological analysis of bottled water".

Second place went to the Secondary school of civil engineering and their project: "Cultural heritage in Mostar"

Third place went to Gimnazija Mostar and their project: "Cosmetics in everyday life".

Congratulations to our winners and all participants!

EXPO – PROMO STANDS OF PROJECT PARTNERS

Thank you to:

INTERA Technology Park, Code Hub, SPARK Business Park, Exploode Academy, Imicron, CERIT - centre for robotics, innovation and technology, American Corner, Centre for technical culture, MAS, Institut Francais Mostar, University Džemal Bijedić Mostar, EU Info Center, Green Design Center, Cultural Centre King Fahd Mostar, Karadoz begova medresa Mostar, OŠ Zalik, OŠ Drežnica.

The organisers of the European Researchers' Night would like to express gratitude to the following individuals, organisations, companies and institutions:

Federal Ministry of Education and Science HNC and Jasmin Branković, City of Mostar and Senada Džemirović - for their support.

Fortuna Tours Mostar, Helen Doron Mostar, Mostar Rock School, Sports Academy Little Bridge for their generous sponsorship.

Bljesak.info., Mostarski.ba, Običan Radio Mostar, Nova Sloboda, City TV for their support and cooperation as our media sponsors.

Special thank you to: DJ Marina Mimosa & OKC Abrašević



PROJECT WEEK

Each October, students organize and participate in weeklong projects — Project Week — around BiH and the region to extend UWC learning into the real world. The possibilities of Project Weeks range from direct action, such as building houses, to exploring street art in Sarajevo, to adventure-hiking. Be open to opportunities!

Every UWC has its own version of project weeks and these valuable experiences

are part of what makes us different from many IB schools, allowing you to discover the area that surrounds you, bond with your fellow students, and experience autonomy in traveling.

Projects weeks are enjoyable and rewarding, but can also be challenging: you will find yourself in an unfamiliar context, with unfamiliar people. Food, work hours and climate may become discomforts, but we recommend you to challenge your-

self and choose a project that you would benefit most from. There is not much that unifies project weeks: each one has its own unique character and strengths, and is right for a different student.

Project Weeks are organized by both students and faculty. First years start planning Project Weeks for the following year at the end of their second term so that they are ready for the start of the subsequent school year.





STUDENT QUOTES ON PROJECT WEEKS 2018:

"The exchange project "Ispod istog neba" in Tuzi, in Montenegro, supported by RYCO was an incredible experience that I believe many of us will never forget. The project was organized between students from Gimnazija Mostar, Gimnazija Tuzi and UWC in Mostar. The project created a lot of discussions between us, pushed us beyond the boundaries of our comfort zone in order to understand our peers, it gave us an opportunity to exchange our experiences in order to better understand our cultures but also to see the differences in them and learn how to respect them. During the project we got an opportunity to travel a bit through Montenegro, being able to get to know the culture, but we also got opportunities to create "small projects" as a part of this project. One of those smaller ones was a photography workshop created by our teacher Doron-



tine and during that project not only did we manage to get to know Tuzi better as a small town but we also got an opportunity to talk to the people living there - younger and older ones - we got an opportunity to directly interact with the people and during that small project we did feel like we were able to capture everything, not just with our cameras rather with the conversations we had. The highlight of the project

was the venue created as a collaboration between the students from Gimnazija Mostar, Gimnazija Tuzi and UWCiM in which we sang, acted, read poems and danced traditional Albanian dance. Every one of us is more than excited for the return visit and for the new things we will do in the second part of the project. "

Hena Čevro, BiH, UWC Mostar '19

"The UWCiMxRefugees in Salakovac happened throughout the project week in cooperation with Mostar's Red Cross (Crveni Križ Grada Mostara) and BH Woman's Initiative foundation (BHWI-BH Inicijativa Žena), UNHCR partner in assisting refugees on the territory of B&H. A diverse group of students including 3 students familiar with Persian and Arabic spent a week in Salakovac Refugee Reception Center - a refugee camp led by the Ministry of human rights and refugees located 15km away from Mostar - and Red Cross operational center. The activities were mostly focused on helping the organizations with translation, social activities with children and youths and preparing food for inhabitants of the camp."

Moeed Baradaran, Iran, UWC Mostar '19

"Following a workshop provided by UWC Mostar about gender based violence, our students wanted to share the knowledge with other teenagers who might not have the opportunity to access such trainings and workshops. 10 UWC Mostar students went to Albania, where they held workshops in local high schools, with the help of NGOs - Gender Alliance for Development Center and Vlora Youth Center. They discussed concepts such as gender and sex, consent, sexism, and gender based violence. Kiara, Klaudia, Stefanos, Dino, Nefeli, Emir, Kiara L, Lina, Kenin and Aylin aimed to create a safe space for people to share opinions and personal experiences, without being judged and placed a lot of emphasis on reflection on the topic.

This exciting task also included exploring Tirana and Vlora, going hiking, swimming and ice skating, breaking the stereotypes and giving people a new perspective of this region."

Kiara Xhindi, Albania, UWC Mostar '19

"During their project week, a group of seven UWC Mostar DP Theatre Students, supervised by our visual arts teacher Damir Čobo, visited the International school of Belgrade, Serbia, to share their passion for theatre and form a collaboration with ISB High School Arts students.

They led workshops, shared feedback with Grade 9 & 10 Drama classes and initiated a combined DP Visual Arts class project task and encouraged practical improvisation work with ISB DP Theatre Students.

This positive shared experience in the arts between the two schools provides the opportunity to foster new relationships in the region and meet new people with common interests."

"UWC Mostar students marked the International day for the eradication of poverty and International week of solidarity together with the wonderful members of the Red Cross Novo Sarajevo Crveni Križ NOVO SARAJEVO.

Our students were welcomed by the kind staff of Red Cross Novo Sarajevo, had an opportunity to learn more about their work and activities and also visited the public kitchen, donated meals, joined a voluntary blood donation activity and dedicated their time to gaining knowledge on the role of the Red Cross in migrant crisis."

Challenge History Summer School

Challenge History is one of annual summer schools and programmes taking place at UWC Mostar. The participants from ex-Yugoslav countries gather to discuss challenges in contrasting narratives, questions of identity and what social elements influence the construction of our identities,

different aspects of remembrance and many more. This year's summer school took place in Prizren Kosovo from July 21 – 29 with UWC Mostar being one of the partners on the project. There were three participants from our school (first years) who will be implementing follow-up activities until the end of the year. They invited their home schools to join us for UWC day, attended "Around the world in 80 minutes" and organized a round table discussion in Spanish room, presenting the project Challenge history.

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Impact Study in English

In order to get an objective external evaluation of how much UWC Mostar has been able to achieve an impact in Mostar community, an independent study was conducted by a team of external researchers from the University of Sarajevo and University of Zenica.

Respondents interviewed for the impact study stated that UWC Mostar contributed to:

- less xenophobia and more tolerance towards diversity.
- more possibilities for locals to experience life in a multicultural environment.
- increased cooperation between teachers who are now working together on seminars, competitions, and professional development projects, especially because UWC Mostar finances physics competitions for students who study under both curricula.
- Restoration of Gimnazija Mostar, providing premises for UWC Mostar with the hope of bringing international education, values and intercultural understanding to the local students.
- Enabling the City of Mostar to host other organisations that carry out activities and enhance the quality of living
- less interference of politics into the separation of curricula in Gimnazija Mostar.
- more people coming to live and study in Mostar

Translated and edited by Adla Velagić-Čurić and Elma Mahmutović the impact study "The Rulers of "No Man's Land" – Study of Cultural Contact and Social Impact of the United World College in Mostar" in .pdf version is available at our official webpage - Impact study.

Residence news

It is with great pleasure that we would like to update you on the progress related to our student residence project, the construction of the second UWC Mostar owned residence "Šantić". With the generous support of our parents and other donors we have managed to reach 30,000 Euros, which will be matched by two other donors totalling 90,000 Euros and allows us to start construction works in this initial stage. The construction started in early September and a contract has already been signed with a local construction company. We hope to start housing students in the "Šantić" residence from autumn 2019.

To fully finance the construction, we still need to reach 250,000 Euros of donations. If you or your friends who believe in our mission wish to continue supporting us towards that goal, we would be more than grateful. Please encourage others to donate and help us improve the student residences and reduce the overall costs of the College.



Marking the month of breast cancer awareness

Breast cancer awareness is an effort to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of breast cancer through education on symptoms and treatment. Greater knowledge will lead to earlier detection of breast cancer, which is associated with higher long-term survival rates, and funds raised are intended for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure. A variety of events around the world are organized in October, including walks and runs, and the pink illumination of landmark buildings.

We are very proud of our students who also marked the month of breast cancer awareness.

Special thank you to our Community Commission members and students who raised 172KM that will be donated to a local association whose work is dedicated to helping women with malignant breast disease and other malignant diseases - Udruga Novi Pogled.

UWC Mostar Short Course "Bridging Cultures"

The UWC Mostar Short Course 2018 was held under the title "Bridging Cultures". The organizers, 7 facilitators - current UWC students or alumni, wanted to create a short course that would focus on multicultural understanding. They covered a wide range of topics such as: Non-violent communication and Mediation, Identity, Minorities and Activism. The content was delivered in the form of interactive workshops and activities that provided the participants a platform to explore, discuss, and learn about the topics through experience.

We welcomed 21 participants coming from 11 different countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Poland, Estonia, Spain, Norway, and Greece. Focusing on the region was very important to us, both when it comes to content and participant demographics. Because of this we had 8 participants from the region.

The organizers are particularly grateful to Valentina Mindoljević, family Platzer, and Jutta von Falkenhausen, for their generous support.

"UWC short courses are not only an opportunity for participants to discover themselves and their surroundings with a new approach, but it is also an opportunity for facilitators to face with the new challenge of sharing their knowledge with other youths. Having a diverse range of participants with an specific focus on Balkan students, the short course aimed to promote multi cultural understanding in such a great context of Bosnia & Herzegovina. As an international student who has been studying in B&H for a year It was a bit demanding to define all of our contents in the context of the country however the result was satisfactory for me. I truly believe that UWC-alumni-based projects such as Bridging Culture short course are able to be a hub for international students from all around the world to connect new generation youths."



-Moeed Baradaran, facilitator, Iran

Foundation Education in Action and UWC Mostar among the first recipients of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) grant scheme

Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) is an independently functioning institutional mechanism, founded by the Western Balkans 6 participants (WB 6): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia and Serbia, aiming to promote the spirit of reconciliation and cooperation between the youth in the region through youth exchange programs.

The Foundation and its local partners UWC Mostar, Gimnazija Mostar and Gimnazija 25. Maj Tuzi will be implementing the project "Culture Fusion - learning about our neighbours" a two-stage cultural exchange whose aim it is to increase intercultural understanding and competences among project participants, by learning about their respective cultures and traditions and by sharing and promoting them through artistic expression with a wider community. 10 students from each school will be part of the project and we hope to equip them with new skills and intercultural competencies, give them knowledge and awareness of the importance of preserving peace and foster mobility of young people from BiH and Montenegro in general.





BBC, France 24 and the New York Times at UWC Mostar

UWC Mostar PR department has the pleasure of welcoming media representatives from all over the world every year and in the past years has welcomed journalists from most prestigious media in the world. This September was no different.

"Story on UWC Mostar is always a positive one, is it possible to have it any other way?" - one of our visitors stated.

Interviews with UWC Mostar Headteacher and students took place over several days and are/will be featured on France 24, BBC Serbia and NYT (please see link below). UWC Mostar PR and Comms would like to thank Aleksandar Miladinović (BBC Serbia), Barbara Surk (NYT), Karim Yahiaoui and Mohammed Farhat (France 24) and Ermina Aljičević for their kind support and cooperation.
<https://www.bbc.com/serbian/lat/balkan-45883021>



Voluntary Blood Donation Action - Saving Lives

Initiated by UWC Mostar student Tatiana DelCorso and our medical technician Admir Zekić a voluntary blood donation action took place this October. An entire team of transfusiology technicians welcomed the idea and organised the activity in the Gim-

nazija premises. 25 UWC Mostar students donated blood and like every year showed their continuous support and contribution to the Transfusiology Centre in Mostar and their annual activities "Voluntary Blood Donation Action - Saving Lives".

Visit by Czech delegation

UWC Mostar had the pleasure of welcoming a delegation of educationalists from the Hradec Kralove region, Czech Republic led by the Minister of Education. Our guests were welcomed by the headteacher and staff members and joined by students who significantly contributed to the event. The possibility of future cooperation between schools was one of the topics,

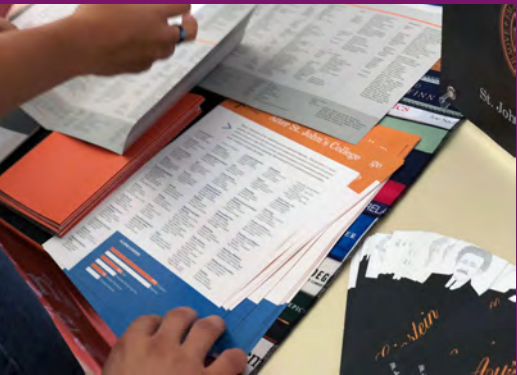
as well as a discussion on plans, curricula and the impact of UWC Mostar. The Czech delegation has visited several schools in the region and we were happy to be one of the schools selected as an example of good educational practice in the region.



US and Canada Colleges at the annual College Fair in Mostar

The traditional College Fair organised by UWC Mostar and our University Councillor Marjana Tomaš, took place in September this year. College and University representatives presented their programmes in Mostar 2018 and we were pleased to welcome: Colorado College, Concordia College,

Earlham College, St. John's College, St. Olaf College, University of Oklahoma, Wartburg College, Whitman College i Washington & Lee University. The Fair included introductory presentations on studying in USA and Canada, individual presentations and a number of interesting workshops for UWC Mostar students.



Donations from friends

SKI GEAR DONATION

It is amazing how UWC spirit travels across the globe! Ski gear donation from All Mountain Rental in Verbier and by a UWC Adriatic alumnus, picked up in Switzerland by a van from UWC Robert Bosch College and driven by a UWC Adriatic alumnus to UWC Mostar! A beautiful cooperation and coordination of colleges and alumni - thank you all for the donation, effort and time from UWC Mostar.



DONATION OF IB BOOKS AND LITERATURE

UWC Mostar expresses deepest gratitude to the Stockholm International School, History teacher Matthew Smith, Economics teacher Damir Jovic and our friends at UG "Naša Djeca - Our Kids" and Association "Moj Mostar" for their amazing efforts and donation of IB books to our student library! Thank you all for the great work that you do and we are looking forward to our future cooperations!



Environmental CAS actions

UWC Mostar Environmental Group has been contributing to the City of Mostar environmental actions and events for several years. Organising two large cleaning actions every year, UWC Mostar Environmental Group has significantly contributed to a cleaner city, but also influenced other students, schools and informal groups to join in or organise similar activities themselves. In October, they had their first cleaning session of the year. This included several cleaning actions covering different locations in the city. Members of the group cleaned the Sušac area, Red Cross garden and old town location, actions which are always welcome and greatly appreciated by the local community.





ALUMNI NEWS

UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI BOARD

We are extremely happy and proud to announce that we have reinitiated the UWC Mostar Alumni Board consisting of a group of enthusiastic, successful and motivated alums committed to the UWC mission and values. The UWC Mostar Alumni Board is an alumni led body that assists and advises

UWC Mostar on alumni engagement. It has two major aims:
1) To strengthen the alumni network (alumni to alumni)
2) To strengthen the relationship between alumni and the College
We hope that the alumni engagement will

see its well-deserved development and that alums will have a platform to make a meaningful contribution to the College. It is for this reason that we proudly present the new structure of the UWC Mostar Alumni Board:

ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS



DJORDJE HINIC, UWC MOSTAR '09

Djordje Hinic is a passionate philanthropist, sailor, triathlete, and an entrepreneur with experience in USA, Africa, Asia, Europe and Scandinavia. His genuine interest lies in developing and growing projects that have a world-changing perspective and his expertise is improving and creating innovative business development methodologies and processes that can enable an organization to grow to global levels. He is an author of a "Be the expert" business development and sales book which is used for training a global sales force of a Norwegian IT company. He relocated to Belgrade, Serbia after over a decade living internationally.



IGOR SAMARDŽIĆ, UWC MOSTAR '09

Igor Samardzic is the Managing Director of Jitasa d.o.o. Sarajevo. He graduated from United World College in Mostar in 2009. That same year, he moved to Caldwell, ID where he attended The College of Idaho until 2013 and graduated with honors in Business Administration as the only student in the history of the College who completed all of the business concentrations (Accounting, Finance and Marketing). After graduation in 2013 he started working at Jitasa, a bookkeeping and accounting service provider on a mission to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of nonprofit organizations. His personal mission and Jitasa's mission were perfectly aligned, and immediately upon Igor's return to his hometown Sarajevo in 2014, he continued working for Jitasa and worked on establishing a Jitasa office in Sarajevo. Jitasa Sarajevo now employs 50+ amazing people (including an UWCiM alumnus) in a country with one of the highest youth unemployment rates. He is passionate about serving others, building things greater than himself and building a peaceful and sustainable future.



LUKAS BOSCH, UWC MOSTAR '14

Lukas Bosch attended UWC Mostar from 2012 until 2014 and remained engaged with the UWC movement through different positions at UWC Germany and UWC International. Lukas graduated from the University of Warwick in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and now studies Behavioural and Decision Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. His work experience is mixed between the for-profit and non-profit sector. Lukas' interest lies in the field of social impact enterprises and their feasibility as sustainable solutions to social and environmental issues.



MARIJA IVANOVIĆ, UWC MOSTAR '09

Marija Ivanović was a student of the second generation of UWCiM. After leaving Mostar, she obtained her bachelor degree at Lake Forest College majoring in International Relations. Subsequently, she went on to pursue her studies in Prague, Santiago de Chile and Sarajevo. As it seems that Marija cannot get enough of school, she is currently enrolled in Nationalism Studies MA program. Lastly, it is not an exaggeration to say that many important things that happened in her life are closely related to UWCiM, being on the Alumni Board is just a small step towards trying to give something back to this wonderful institution.



MARIUS KAT, UWC MOSTAR '11

Marius Kat is a UWC Mostar alumni from the generation 2009 - 2011. Originally from the Hague, he has continued his studies at the University of Oxford, Sciences Po Paris and the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. In 2014 and 2015 he was assisting in the setting up of the UWC Mostar Endowment Fund, of which he is still on the Investment Committee.



MASHA GUBENKO, UWC MOSTAR '10

Masha Gubenko graduated from UWCiM in 2010 and afterwards earned a B.A. in Mathematics and Economics from Macalester College in St.Paul, MN. She has been working in infrastructure project finance at Barclays in New York since early 2015.



PETR KNOR, UWC MOSTAR '11

Petr Knor is from Prague, Czech Republic. He graduated from UWC Mostar in 2011 and he currently serves as Alumni representative on the UWC College Board. UWC Mostar is his true home and he hopes to help other alumni reconnect to the school. In the past few years, Petr got involved in organizing UWC short courses and first facilitated the Short Courses in Bulgaria (2017) and Belgium (2017), and then acted as the main coordinator for the Short Courses in Belgium (2018) and Turkey (2018). He also volunteers with the Critical Engagement movement within UWC that delivers workshops on identity, diversity, and social responsibility at the UWC Colleges. When not helping the UWC movement, he works in the consulting sector, travels the world, and meets new people.



SELMA BEGOVIĆ, UWC MOSTAR '10

Selma Begović double-majored in Accounting and International Business at Westminster College. Currently, she is a partner and business development manager at Marvelsoft, a global technology solutions provider for the trading industry. She is passionate about local impact and giving back to the community. Her current carrier path enables her to positively impact software development industry in Bosnia and connect young talented engineers to world class projects. Selma graduated from UWC Mostar in 2010 and since pursued further education and career path alongside activism and volunteering across the globe.

For any inquiries about the Alumni Network, write to alumni@uwcim.uwc.org with the subject "For Alumni Network". If you wish to share your great story, academic success, amazing job or volunteering experience contact the PR department (adla.velagic@uwcim.uwc.org)

REUNION 10 - 10 YEARS OF EDUCATING FOR PEACE

UWC Mostar students, class of 2008/2009 marked the jubilee 10th year since their graduation. 70 graduates from more than 20 countries of the world participated in a number of activities with a weekend programme. Saturday included presenta-

tions and opening of the time capsule, and Sunday was reserved for day trips and visiting the National Park Sutjeska. In 11 years UWC Mostar educated students from 95 countries of the world and is one of the best IB schools, initiating a num-

ber of humanitarian and cultural events in the City of Mostar. It was wonderful and heartwarming to see the success of the first generation to graduate from UWC Mostar.



UWC MOSTAR ALUMNA, FOUNDER OF WOMEN'S LEAGUE AT OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY



A new organization started last summer with hopes to connect and empower female African international students at Oklahoma University. Members of InFocus Africa, a student group at OU, collaborated to create the African Women's League. The goal of the group is to create a community and support system for female African students, focusing specifically on their struggles while hosting talks and connecting students with mentors, according to the organization's founders. One of the organization's founders, Tatenda Dzvimbo, is UWC Mostar alumna, an economics and international development sophomore. You find that most international students, we come, we don't have families,

it's pretty much just us," Dzvimbo said. The purpose of the conference was to mentor young women who want to be in leadership positions, which sparked the idea for the women's league. In a Facebook post, Tatenda said: "Thank you so much UWC Mostar for the tremendous support and encouragement. Your solid support from the day I walked in as a student till now overwhelms me. I am truly grateful and humbled. Just like many others my life was impacted by the virtues, principles and morals taught to me by this institution. To whom much is given, much is surely expected. I will continue to speak out, unite forces and bridge people to make this world a better place!"



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