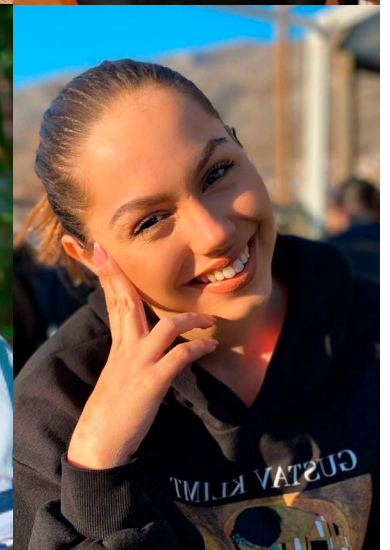
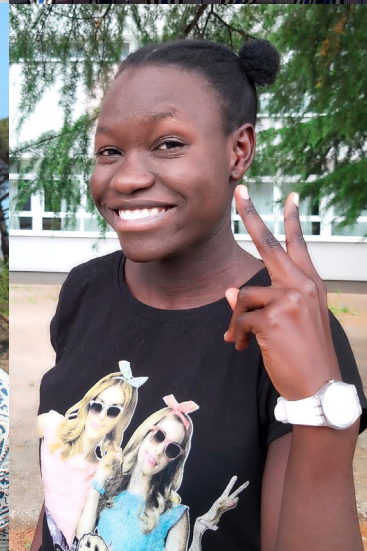
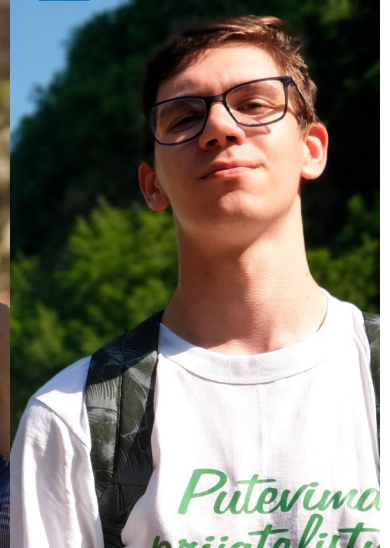




Newsletter

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Spring, 2020



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IMPRESSUM:

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UWC RESPONSE TO COVID-19 - MESSAGE FROM THE UWC IO

From Dr Musimbi Kanyoro, Chair of the UWC International Board, Dr Quique Bassat, Chair of the UWC International Council and Jens Waltermann, Executive Director of UWC International.

Dear members of the UWC community,

We want to start by thanking you and acknowledging all you have done, individually and collectively, to support UWC in so many different ways during this challenging time. Our sense of community has been inspiring, whether looking after students' safety, helping to bring them home or into generous host families, supporting their continued learning, reassuring them and addressing their concerns both currently and with regard to the coming academic year 2020/21. It is a great testament to the UWC movement and our values that we stand together to deal with our response to the COVID crisis.

We are in the next stage now and UWC schools and colleges, national committees and UWC International have been working at all levels - and at times literally around the clock - to develop scenario and contingency planning for the UWC movement going forward. One thing is certain: in a world that has changed fundamentally, our UWC education is more important than ever in shaping independent, critical and compassionate thinkers, selfless leaders and agents for change and social progress. Let us be clear: we plan for all UWC schools and colleges to be open for the start of the new school year in August/September (January for UWC Waterford)!

Opening may mean different things in different places, however, and for all

schools it will be different from opening under normal circumstances. As much as we would like to see a full 'return to normal' - the detailed scenarios work undertaken by UWC International's COVID Response Steering Group and the advice of two epidemiologists within the group point to the unfortunate reality that 2020 will not see a worldwide bounce back to 'normality'.

There are great complexities and serious challenges to planning across our 18 campuses and close to 160 national committees under the current conditions of uncertainty. Travel and visa restrictions by governments and serious disruptions, particularly to air travel, are likely to persist well into the fall. Enrollment will be lower than usual as a result. Each school is developing contingency plans adapted to its particular context. In addition to reviewing necessary health facilities (including quarantining), the schools are preparing to offer online or blended learning during the first months of the academic year with the aim of serving a maximum of students on campus and also any students online due to later arrivals or quarantine. This is both a challenge and an opportunity. UWC has a long history as an educational innovator and we see great opportunities in leveraging the diversity and teaching expertise across our 18 campuses for some outstanding online learning.

We are dedicated to doing everything in our power to ensure that all current students, including international first



year IB students will be able to return to "their" UWC or, if that should be impossible, to support them completing the final year of their IB Diploma at another UWC. And we will do our utmost, that all selected and nominated incoming students can begin their UWC journey as planned - if not at their designated UWC, then at another one of our schools and colleges. This will require agility in our response and some flexibility on the part of students and their families. But we are in this together. Where restrictions are such that incoming students cannot reach any UWC with the capacity to accept them, we will offer deferred admission in 2021 wherever possible.

Finally, and perhaps most urgently, our current planning focuses on the financial

implications that will inevitably follow the more immediate personal consequences of this crisis. A drop in enrollment will lead to a significant reduction in revenues and the financial effects of the crisis on donors will reduce their ability to support scholarships. Our schools and colleges are already working on saving costs. None of this will be easy. Yet we remain committed to fully delivering on the UWC mission, values and experience on all our campuses. For this we need your help: we will be launching a UWC movement-wide fundraising campaign to allow the thousands of alumni and friends of UWC across the globe, who care deeply about the future of this movement and the schools that they called home, to support UWC in its hour of greatest need. Further details surrounding this campaign will

follow shortly and we will need all of your support to make it a success.

We understand that none of this is comfortable. But we also hope that, like us, you will feel encouraged by the united effort across the whole UWC movement. From the outset of the COVID crisis there has been a coordinated, movement-wide approach to the situation and it continues to direct our thinking and actions. This will give us the strength to get the UWC movement, our students and teachers, our staff and volunteers, through this crisis together.

Weekly communications and town hall meetings provide national committees with support, the UWC website continues to provide the latest updates to the wider community, twice-weekly calls of the Heads and of the COVID Response Steering Group and regular contact with the Committee of the National Committees serve to coordinate the UWC movement's strategic response to the crisis. On top of this, school and UWC International staff, as well as national committee volunteers, continue to work tirelessly to implement COVID response plans and support our current and incoming students.

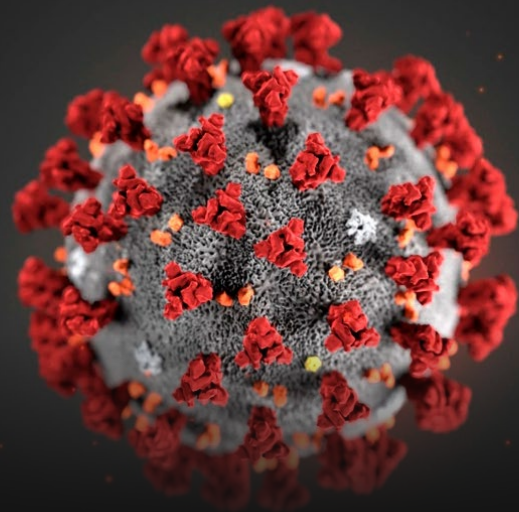
Together, we will get through this. And we look forward to emerging on the other side with new learnings and a surge of community spirit in place. We thank you again for your dedication and commitment to UWC.

Best wishes and be well,

Dr Musimbi Kanyoro
Chair
UWC International Board

Dr Quique Bassat
Chair
UWC International Council

Jens Waltermann
Executive Director
UWC International



UWC MOSTAR, RESPONSE TO COVID-19

UWC MOSTAR management has spent

considerable time assessing different options and measures to be taken in accordance with the decisions of the relevant health authorities, consulting with its own Crisis Management team, UWC International Office, heads and representatives of other UWCs, as well as our own College Board.

In accordance with the Decision of the Crisis Committee of the Federal Ministry of Health and the Crisis Committee of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Ministry of Health, all elementary and secondary schools on the territory of Federation of BiH are instructed to take the precautionary measure of temporarily closing in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 in BiH.

Health, safety and wellbeing of our students and employees are at the heart of everything that we do. This is why we, in addition to respecting the above-mentioned decision of the Crisis Committee, have taken a number of precautionary measures in accordance with the recommendations of the relevant health authorities and to the best interest of our students and their well-being.

These include:

- Cancellation of all formal and informal visits, until further notice
- All school activities planned for the upcoming period are postponed, until further notice
- Cancellation of all CAS services, until

further notice

- Initiating an early leave for Year 1 students
- Proper completion of the Year 1 academic program will be guaranteed via remote learning
- Remote learning for both Year 1 and Year 2 students will resume immediately

With the growing uncertainties around travel restrictions and border closures, as well as the state of emergency proclaimed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, temporary closure of the college has been initiated, inviting the remaining Year 2 students who can travel home to do so before 20/3/2020.

One of the college residences will remain open for all of our students who cannot travel home. We will do our best to support all of the students and staff who are staying, and make sure they receive all the necessary care and support.

College will ensure the program continuity through remote learning capacities.

All UWC Mostar students, their parents and UWC national committees have been informed on the precautionary measures taken and all updates are regularly communicated to our students, their parents and respective NCs.

Many thanks for the trust you have in us during this turbulent period and the kind support you continue to provide.

For additional information and questions, please contact info@uwcim.uwc.org and stay updated by visiting our official social media pages.



Announcement by the IBO

On March 23, 2020, the IBO announced that May 2020 examinations will no longer be held and issued the following statement:

"Our students, their well-being and their progression in future stages of life have been at the forefront of our thinking as we respond to this extraordinary pandemic.

As an organisation, it is critical for us to ensure that the options we provide our global community of IB World schools are based on compassion for our students and teachers and, fairness for the difficult circumstances our students and educators are experiencing. We are grateful for your patience and consideration. As a result, the IB with considerable advisement from stakeholders across the globe including schools, students, universities and official bodies has determined the most responsible and ethical way forward.

The IB will be taking the following actions for the 2020 May Examination session:

- The May 2020 examinations as scheduled between 30 April and 22 May for Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme candidates will no longer be held.
- Depending on what they registered for, the student will be awarded a Diploma or a Course Certificate which reflects their standard of work. This is based on student's coursework and the established assessment expertise, rigor and quality control already built into the programmes.

IBO will continue to be available to answer questions. Our goal continues to be to find ways to support our global community during these uncertain times and provide the best possible outcomes for our students."

ZAYED SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE GOES TO UWC MOSTAR!

UWC MOSTAR TEAM are the winners of "Zayed Sustainability Prize" 2020. Established in 2008, this annual award recognises and rewards the achievements of those who are driving impactful, innovative and inspiring sustainability solutions across five distinct categories: Health, Food, Energy, Water and Global High Schools.

The school team proposed a project to build one of the first environmentally conscious buildings, in the city of Mostar.

These plans include installation of solar panels, water-saving technologies, triple-glazed windows, and special insulation. Furthermore, UWC aims at creating a space that can host workshops and activities for the local community to help the school strengthen its environmental outreach activities.

The goal of the United World College is to equip the building to hold workshops and various activities for the local community, which, they said, will also contribute to the mission of the school in BiH and to the development of a post-conflict society, and through the implementation of the awarded project, get the first "green" building.

UWC Mostar is the only school and team to represent Bosnia and Herzegovina at this prestigious event in the United Arab Emirates, with a valuable prize of 100,000 U.S. dollars expected to implement the project.

"We are grateful to have received this significant recognition for our work. With

our new residency, we will strive to expand our community activities and contribute to raising awareness among locals and students," said one of the winning team members, Joseph Knight.

The Zayed Sustainability Prize, an evolution of the Zayed Future Energy Prize, is the UAE's pioneering global award in sustainability and a tribute to the legacy of the late founding father of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.



THE SCHOOL THAT BROUGHT THE WORLD TO MOSTAR

Interview with the Acting Head of UWC Mostar, Dženan Hakalović

By: Roland Grabovac, FENA, Federal News Agency/UWC Mostar

UWC Mostar was established in 2006 and although envisioned as a short-term project, it has remained a part of the city for the past fourteen years, educating more than a thousand students from all over the world.

In the words of UWC Mostar's Acting Head Dženan Hakalović, the UWC Movement as an idea was developed in the 50s and 60s, based on the work of the German educationalist and expert Kurt Hahn, who represented the idea that a secondary school should prepare for life, not just university.

"Atlantic College, the first college of what is to become the UWC Movement was established in 1962 in Wales. The idea was to connect young people who are willing to meet their peers from the other side of the "iron curtain". The focus was on students age 16-19 in a residential school concept, where students are accommodated together" - said Hakalović.

Until the 80s, colleges in Swaziland, Canada, India, Italy and Singapore were established. Each of them with its own concept specific for the respective school.

MOSTAR INSTEAD OF SARAJEVO

UWC Movement developed with every year and in the beginning of the 2000s there was a feeling of need to open such a school in BiH.

"The College was established in 2006 in Mostar, although the primary idea was to open the college in Sarajevo. However, Mostar came into focus as a city where existence of this type of institution felt necessary" - said Hakalović.

Since then, UWC Mostar enrolls hundred students each year, out of which one-fifth originates from BiH and other students come from different countries all over the world. The college is a residential



school, providing students with accommodation, food and education.

The College teaches IB Diploma Programme in English language, intended for students of third and fourth grade. Hakalović explained that the curriculum includes six subject groups and students select one subject from each of the groups.

"Compared to our local schools our programme might seem a lot "narrower". Instead of 16 subjects our students attend six, but they research and study these subjects in depth. This provides them with a spectrum of knowledge narrow enough

for a specialisation, yet providing them with the breadth of common knowledge", said Hakalović.

In his words, when the college in Mostar was opened, an experienced international teaching staff was gathered in order to transfer their knowledge to local teachers.

"During the first four-five years the ratio of international and local teaching staff was fifty-fifty. In the meantime, the ratio has changed in favour of local teachers and today we are at around 20-25% of international staff, which is a standard considering the fact that this is an international school", added Hakalović.

OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY AT PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITIES

The IB DP is recognised all over the world and universally, and a great advantage of students attending a UWC is the fact that after they acquire their international diploma, the opportunity of studying abroad open up.

"Our comparative advantage is the fact that we are recognised with philanthropic organisations that provide our students with an opportunity to further their education at some of the most prestigious universities in the world", stated Hakalović.

The specialty of UWC schools are extracurricular CAS activities, mandatory for all students. Activities are divided into three groups, out of which two - creativity and activity correspond with extracurricular activities present in local schools, i.e. theatre, sports and other sections.



"The most important segment of extracurricular activities is the service in the community, something that can be compared to volunteering. Focus is placed on cooperation with local institutions, working with young people and marginalised groups, such as children with special needs, Roma children etc", explains Hakalović.

HOLISTIC APPROACH TO EDUCATION

Connecting theory with specific action in the community is the principal of the work of the UWC schools.

"The idea is that everything that students attend during their education, the contact with peers from other countries, academic education, community service is all encompassing - a holistic education of the person, not just academic learning of dry facts" - emphasises Hakalović.

According to him, this model of education is something other schools in BiH should aim for, especially given the

The idea is that everything that students attend during their education, contact with peers from other countries, academic education, community service is all encompassing - a holistic education of the person, not just academic learning of dry facts

discouraging results of PISA testing in BiH. Looking back at 14 years of existence and work of UWC Mostar, the Acting Head reminded us that in the beginning the focus was on helping the local community in realisation of the advantages of a cosmopolis society and assist in post-war recovery and reconciliation.

"We dealt a lot with the culture of remembrance and other topics that were a taboo in our society and were not dealt with in other schools in BiH. In the meantime, we are evaluating our role in the society in the context of changes taking place happening in BiH and the region

- the context of young people leaving, unemployment of young people, lack of ecological awareness and we are adapting. We place less focus on the events of the 90s, and we think more about the future, about where Mostar and Western Balkans will be in five or ten years", said Hakalović.

Considering the fact that most of the graduates will continue their education abroad, coming back to previously stated, UWC Mostar is also trying to motivate students to return to BiH after completion of their studies in order to develop their ideas and potential in their own country, concluded Dženan Hakalović.

ŠANTIĆ RESIDENCE – MAY 2020

*The first Eco building in Mostar
Thanks to UWC Mostar, the City
of Mostar will be getting the first
building constructed in accordance
with ecological standards.*

*"We are constructing our new Šantić residence
in Mostar and this building will make life more
pleasant, will cost a lot less to maintain and will
be eco-friendly. At the same time, it will teach
future UWC Mostar generations of students to
gain habits of efficient use of energy resources.*
Dženan Hakalović,
UWC Mostar Acting Head.

*"There are great potentials in BiH and
the beautiful nature of BiH needs to be
preserved. The aim is to show that it can
be done and we hope that this building
will serve as an example of better way
of living."*
UWC Mostar,
Project Team

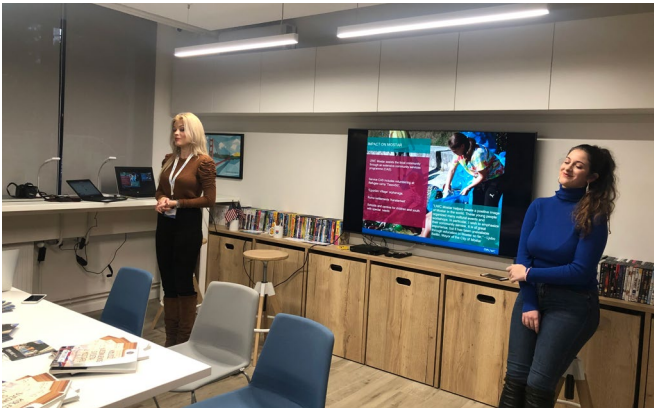


UWC Scholarships 2020/2021

UWC National Committee of BiH opened the call for scholarship applications in the beginning of the year and BiH students were eligible to apply for 30 scholarships in the academic year 2020/2021.

We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the NC of BiH, UWC Mostar team and our Admissions Coordinator Ivona Sušac, for their hard work and efforts under specific circumstances due to COVID -19 outbreak.

With a successfully completed application procedure, selection process and promotional events and activities in Mostar, Banja Luka and Sarajevo, we are looking forward to welcoming our new generation of students in August 2020.



Anti-Racism Workshop

Racism, xenophobia and intolerance are problems prevalent in all societies. But every day, each and every one of us can stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes.
At UWC Mostar we are promoting and defending human rights, and making a difference in combatting racism in the community.
UWC Mostar students and staff members participated in Anti Racism Workshops

this February. These important workshops also introduced a special segment for members of our community who would like to be trained to deliver anti-racism sessions in the future during induction week, our Skill Building Program or to local schools' students and staff.
The workshops were led by Cicely Blain - a diversity and inclusion consultant, activist and writer; and one of Vancouver's fifty most influential people of 2018, as award-

ed by Vancouver Magazine, a co-founder of Black Lives Matter - Vancouver, one of CBC's 150 Black Womxn Making Change in Canada and BC Business 30 Under 30 2019 and has served as a member of the Canadian Youth Delegation to the United Nations. Their work is informed by their professional and academic background at the University of British Columbia and their lived experience as a Black, queer artist, a community builder, an intersectional feminist and a Black liberation activist. Cicely Belle's first book debuts in 2020 with VS Books & Arsenal Pulp Press.





ROCK SCHOOL CONCERT

UWC Mostar students who were among 14 great bands performing at the third programme concert in The School That Rocks - Mostar Rock School! We are bringing you a glimpse of the rock atmosphere.



BRIDGING CULTURES SHORT COURSE

"Bridging Cultures" is a Short Course that aims to discuss and discover the topic of multicultural understanding in depth while giving participants an authentic UWC experience. The course will be carried through an experiential learning approach, that encourages engagement, action and reflection rather than just observation and listening. A group of facilitators, but also guest speakers representing a range of local NGOs, will deliver workshops and activities related to the topics of identity, cultural relativism, multiculturalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina, social activism and more.

The course will encourage participants and staff to get out of their comfort zones and apply the skills and knowledge acquired during the 10 days through projects and actions in their local communities.

Just like in a UWC experience, we will organize various cultural and social activities that aim to develop self-awareness and respect for cultural differences and similarities. There will also be opportunities for the group to explore Mostar and its surroundings, getting to see the flabbergasting natural beauty of the Balkans and the hospitality of the Bosnian people and engaging in some bonding time.



Last but not least, the participants will have the chance to stay in one of the college's residences located right by the Old Town and experience residential life- a very valuable medium for learning from one another. Meanwhile, they will also explore their autonomy by being in an open

campus and contributing to the residence community while doing basic cleaning or cooking tasks once in a while.

This year it will take place in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina from 5th- 15th July 2020.

Science Club - UWC Mostar in cooperation with American Corner Mostar

"Science club" also known as "Physics Workshop" successfully started with its work this school year led by UWC Mostar's Physics teacher dr. sc. Miljan Rupar in cooperation with the American Corner Mostar.

"The idea developed in a conversation with American corner staff and me on what we could do that was creative and scientific. We came up with the idea of combining my expertise in the field of Physics and the potential provided by UWC Mostar - practical work through laboratory exercises and present it to students of local high schools", - stated dr.sc. Miljan Rupar, Workshop Leader.

This is something that is necessary in our city, especially because the schools in Mostar do not have laboratories

and best equipment at their disposal and are thus unable to present Physics lessons through practical work. And students learn and comprehend best when they have an opportunity to do practical work", concludes Miljan.

The workshop is envisioned through sessions of lab experiments. The aim is not just to have fun with conducting experiments, but also to do more difficult parts of the scientific work, data acquisition, mathematical and graphic data analysis, reaching the conclusion and evaluating the



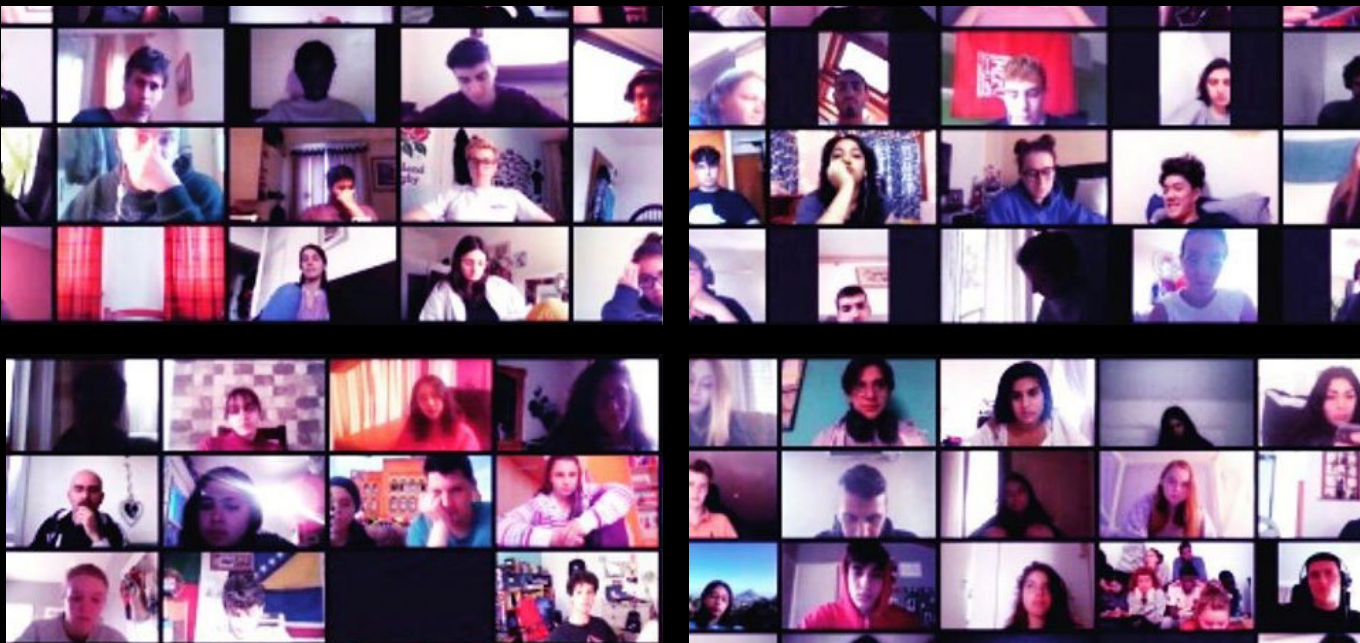
resulting data. In later stages, writing of a lab report is also included in order for students to learn to present the results in written form.

The workshop takes place every month and is attended by interested and motivated students from local high schools.

FIRST ONLINE ASSEMBLY

UWC Mostar held the first online Assembly on March 23, 2020. With 200 + of students and staff members from more than 60 countries of the world online, our students also shared their #stayhome - #staysafe messages.

#STAYHOME
UWC MOSTAR
#STAYSAFE



UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI BRING BOISE-BASED JITASA TO BIH

Article by: College of Idaho

All students who attended the United World Colleges (UWC) before traveling to The College of Idaho know the UWC's mission statement: to make education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.



Bosnian College of Idaho alumni Igor Samardzic '13 and Jasmina Hasić '12 didn't just memorize these words as graduates of UWC Mostar – they internalized them, and continue to live them. The pair are the founders and leaders of the Sarajevo branch of the Boise-based Jitasa, an accounting organization committed to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of nonprofit organizations that serve millions of people and causes worldwide. Together, the duo work to carry out the vision of Jitasa, which takes its name from a Thai word meaning “the spirit of serving others” – a spirit not unlike the values they learned as students.

“I am a mission-driven person,” Samardžić said. “UWC’s mission was embedded into my personal mission, which

is well-aligned with Jitasa’s mission. Providing support to nonprofit organizations that do a lot of good worldwide is a great mission I can contribute to.”
“The right thing to do”
After graduating with honors from the College with a degree in business administration in 2013, Samardžić began working for Jitasa at its Boise headquarters, providing accounting and bookkeeping services to a variety of nonprofit clients across every sector. Although Samardžić made an immediately positive impression on his coworkers in Boise, he ultimately returned to his hometown of Sarajevo in 2014. Undeterred by the distance, Samardžić proposed his services to Jitasa as an international contractor about six months after his move.
Jitasa CEO and founder Jeff Russell said he initially turned down Samardžić’s pro-

THIS THURSDAY

UWC Mostar Alumni Talks

With Margherita Tommasini & Fitim Veliu

UWC Mostar Alumni Talks

To strengthen the UWC Mostar Community in these difficult times, members of UWC Mostar staff, teachers Ljubica Bajo Behmen and Petr Knor introduced Alumni Talks. The Alumni Talks are a series of short Zoom informal chats moderated by staff that brought current students and alumni together.

They offered a great opportunity for alumni to share their experiences with the students to show all the different stories and paths that can 'be' after graduating from UWC Mostar.

Until May 2020, UWC Mostar Alumni Talks welcomed:

Selma Begović (BiH), Lara Savenije (The Netherlands), Peter Lorenz (Austria), Elissavet Karamichail (Greece), Radka Pudilová (Czech Republic), Marina Andrijević (BiH), Amitai Ben-Abba (Israel), Toni Čerkez (BiH), Jerry Ruijie Huang (China), Dorontině Berishaj (Montenegro), Fitim Veliu (Kosovo), Elma Oručević (BiH), Margherita Tomassini (Italy)

Restart of the talks is planned for the next academic year too and if you are interested in delivering one, please email: Ljubica Bajo Behmen ljubica.bajo@uwcim.uwc.com or Petr Knor petr.knor@uwcim.uwc.org

UWC MOSTAR

JOIN UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI TALKS!

positional, but Samardžić's positive reputation with the company combined with the strategic positives an additional international location could bring to Jitasa's capabilities caused Russell to reconsider. With a location in Sarajevo combined with its already established locations in Boise and Bangkok, Thailand, Jitasa could work with clients 24 hours a day, shifting accounting and data entry work around each location as needed.

"We already had an international location in Thailand, so I wasn't sure what we would do in Sarajevo," Russell said. "But the more we talked about it, the more it felt right. It happened somewhat accidentally, but it all worked out and felt like the right thing to do."

to the world through the work we do and working with nonprofit clients that inspire you to be better is very rewarding."

With Hasić on board and with Russell laying the groundwork for formal office space in Sarajevo, the twosome began to plan for rapid growth in Sarajevo, specifically targeting what Hasić described as "young, ambitious, smart, cross-functional individuals."

Samardžić's vision for the budding Sarajevo branch focused on the high youth unemployment rate in the city; Bosnia has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the world at more than 50 percent.

"This was the opportunity for me to bring Jitasa to Sarajevo, provide meaningful

In December 2015, Jitasa organized a two-week educational "Boot Camp" in Sarajevo as a way to kickstart formal hiring efforts in the city. These hires became the core group of Sarajevo's formal branch opening in January 2016. Today, Samardžić is managing director of Jitasa Sarajevo, with Hasić working as the team manager. The duo works together to manage Jitasa client operations, acquire new talent, and handle day-to-day duties for the location.

As of October 2019, Jitasa Sarajevo employs over 60 staff – one of the largest U.S. employers in Sarajevo today. With the branch continuing to grow, Samardžić and Hasić are continuing to draw on their experiences they gained



BUILDING BRIDGES

Jitasa's Sarajevo location started with humble roots, operating entirely out of Samardžić's apartment. While Samardžić was still working as a contractor, he reached out to Hasić about the possibility of her joining Jitasa in the spring of 2015. Hasić, herself a business administration graduate, had just completed an internship with Ernst & Young in Sarajevo and found herself eager to join in Jitasa's mission.

"The whole story [of Jitasa] was inspiring, and most importantly had a purpose that was aligned with my own," Hasić said. "Being able to give your contribution back

careers to the Bosnian youth, keep working for this awesome company, and keep living a global life where our work could help create a peaceful and sustainable future."

Russell noted the significance of Samardžić seeking out Hasić given the country's ethnic tensions following the Bosnian War that ended in 1995. Although the pair come from formerly opposed ethnic groups in the region, neither see ethnicity in Bosnia as a barrier. "To me, it's powerful that the first thing Igor did was seek out Jasmina. They're creating a company that's modeling the future of what Sarajevo should be, that even deeply-divided groups can come together for a greater purpose."

at the College to continue in the service of others.

"Who I am today was very much influenced by the opportunities I had the luck to be gifted with," Hasić said. "Having spent years with international students and professors that come from different backgrounds has helped me grow a lot, both academically and as a person."

"The C of I will not only teach you theory," Samardžić added. "It will provide you a chance to practice and experience it, and even more important, a chance to inherit some awesome values that will shape you as a person for life."

To learn more about Jitasa, visit www.jitasagroup.com.

1 euro campaign - make a small contribution, make a big change

Make a small contribution, make a big change - join the "1€ Alumni Giving Campaign"!

Another way of giving back and showing support is through the Mostar Endowment: "Bridge to the Future" '1 Euro Alumni Giving Campaign', which was set up to raise funds from alumni for a scholarship to give to a student every year to study at UWC Mostar.

Many of you have already joined, and we thank you for that!

If you have not joined already, and would like to make a small contribution on a monthly basis, please see the Endowment website for guidelines <http://mostarendowment.com>.

Every contribution is a step towards an alumni endowed scholarship that will provide continuous funding for one student at UWC Mostar! Thank you for your support!



UWC MOSTAR ALUMNI - LET'S STAY CONNECTED

UWC Mostar has been a part of the UWC family for 14 years and counting. We hope to continue our mission of serving the community and the world for many years to come and we appreciate staying connected with our alumni!

It is essential to have the support of our alumni in order to have our involvement in Bosnia and Herzegovina recognized by the wider community. This is one of the reasons we are constantly updating the UWC Mostar Alumni Database. Additionally, we would also like to keep everyone informed about important developments within the UWC Mostar community.

We kindly ask you to share with us your current contact details in our Alumni Database!

If you are already registered, thank you, we'll stay connected!



UWC MOSTAR CLASS OF 2020

The first (ever) Online Graduation Ceremony!

The first virtual UWC Mostar Graduation Ceremony took place on May 23rd, 2020, with more than 400 attendees from 62 countries of the world wishing our Class of 2020 all the best for their future!

We had the pleasure of enjoying the on-line event all over the world and a pleasure

of welcoming Dr Musimbi Kanyoro, Chair of the UWC Board as our guest of honour and Dr Pilvi Torsti, Chair of the Governing Board of the Foundation Education in Action.

With beautiful videos and music performances produced especially for this event and thank you messages and

greetings from staff and students, our guests and graduates were welcomed by the Acting Head of UWC Mostar, Dženan Hakalović and taken down the memory lane by our student speakers 2020 - Johanna Tikkala from Finland and Andrej Jovičić from BiH.

Student
speakers;
Graduation
Ceremony,
Class of 2020



MUSIMBI KANYORO

Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro is the Board Chair of the United World Colleges. She also serves on the Boards of UN Global Compact, CARE International and Women's Learning Partnerships. She is a trustee of Homeward Bound Projects, an initiative which seeks to inspire and equip women scientists to embrace leadership in climate change. Until recently she was a member of the Gender Advisory Board for the World Bank and Civil Society advisory Board to UN Women.

Dr Kanyoro is known for her leadership of International Organizations. She has traveled widely all over the world and lived extensively in Africa, Europe and USA. She has held various top level International jobs. Her most recent position was President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, a public grant-making foundation supporting women's movements globally.

Musimbi Kanyoro is a passionate advocate for women and young people. She believes that education is the key to self-realization and that investments in education and in youth leadership formation are the cornerstone to creating sustainable societies.

Dr Kanyoro has PhD in Linguistics from University of Texas in Austin and a Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological College. She was a visiting scholar of Hebrew Studies at Harvard University.

Musimbi Kanyoro is a recipient of many awards. In 2015, Forbes magazine named her one of 10 women "power brands" working for gender equality. In 2016 she was recognized on a list of "Forty over 40 – women who are reinventing, disrupting and making an impact". More recently, in 2018, she was named alongside Bill Gates as one of the 9 powerful people changing the planet. Musimbi has written and published widely on a number of issues and is a frequently invited guest speaker to many forums.



PILVI TORSTI

Dr. Pilvi Torsti is a State Secretary at the Finnish government. Prior to this position she served as an MP of the national parliament being a member of education and future committees 2017-2019.

She founded and served as the CEO of a start-up company, Helsinki International Schools (HEI Schools) 2015-2017. HEI Schools offers a global preschool concept based on Finnish educational expertise and a Nordic approach to design in architecture, interior and learning materials. University of Helsinki is HEI Schools' founding partner.

Dr. Torsti served as the State Secretary and Special Advisor at the Finnish government also 2011-2015. Since 2012, Torsti has been an elected member of the City Council of Helsinki, and was a member of the city's Board of Directors until 2017. She has been involved in developing her political party's (Prime Minister party since 2019) policies on education, learning, science, innovation as well as the general approach around the UN Agenda2030 development goals.

Before her political career Dr. Torsti has overseen pioneering research projects at the University of Helsinki including Youth and History research project in Bosnia and Herzegovina in late 1990s. She holds the title of Adjunct Professor. Dr. Torsti was one of the founders of an international educational initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which resulted in the establishment of United World College of Mostar in 2006.

Dr. Torsti has also worked as a journalist and is the author of several academic and general interest books and articles and has been honored for her work towards peace. She is UWC graduate (1995) and Eisenhower Fellow (2013) and married with three children.

Dr. Torsti worked with Bosnian refugees in 1993-95, lived in Sarajevo in 1999-2000 and with her family again 2005-2006. One of her three sons was born in Sarajevo in 2006 and she speaks the local languages.



JOHANNA TIKKALA



ANDREJ JOVIČIĆ



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020!

