



ANNUAL REPORT

2016-17

Comprehensive Recap on the highlights and achievements of LSE SU United Nations Society over 2016-17 academic year

LSESU UNITED NATIONS SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT

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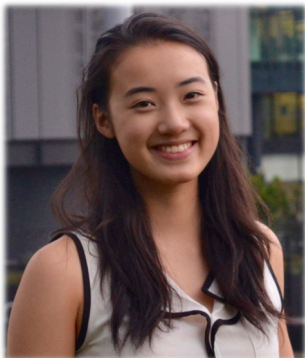
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President's Statement

On behalf of the committee, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to you for taking time to read this document. This is our first annual report which outlines the highlights and achievements of the LSESU United Nations Society 2016-17. This is not an exhaustive account of everything we have done in the past year. Instead we wish to provide you with an overview of our work, highlighting significant achievements to illustrate how we have sought to deliver our society objectives. Thank you to all the Directors who contributed to this document.

Our vision is to become a one-stop society to bring about positive change at LSE and in the community at large. As one of the largest and most operationally diverse societies on the LSE Campus, United Nations Society seeks to empower every member with the necessary skills and knowledge about the wide range of causes they are passionate about. The scope of our activities covers issues on International Trade, Peace & Security, Migrant Crises, International Law, Gender Equality, Social Mobility, Climate Change, Demographic Transitions and a myriad of other pressing issues. We approach these issues through intensive debate, volunteer and campaign initiatives, speaker events, career support and transferable skills development.

When tasked with the difficult job of leading the society, I found myself in uncharted waters. This is the first time I have had the opportunity to oversee a 35-member strong committee, all of whom were leaders and creators in their own right. My uncertainties soon subsided as I started to know my Executive Committee on a more intimate level. Together we directed the goal of the society this year to consolidate the successes of the previous year while expanding each division in new directions. Our officers were the main drivers behind our success. Each division has capitalized on their high degree of autonomy to pursue new initiatives and realise their creative ambitions. I cannot thank my committee enough for their incredible efforts this year. This document is not only a review of the society for our members, it is also a message of sincere appreciation to my committee.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CD' in a stylized, cursive script.

Christine Deng
Outgoing President of LSESU United Nations Society 2016-17

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Executive Committee



Back Row (L-R): Viktor Salenius (Corporate Director), Sumati Semavoine (Outreach Director), Charmaine Low (Events Director), Ralph Chow (MUN Director), Daria Bashkatova (Social Media Director)

Front Row (L-R): Gabriel Chua (Secretary), Leticia Jin (Careers Director), Christine Deng (President), Jenna Yeh (Vice-President), Michael Ongakauko (Treasurer)

Missing: Kristina Lau (MUN Director)

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Events

The events division regularly hosted a great diversity of events discussing pertinent and relevant social issues. These issues include Human Rights, Criminal Justice, Radicalization of Female Jihadists, Revocation of Citizenship for Activists and relevance of international organizations in the post-Brexit and Trump era. We explored these issues through Lectures+ Series, movie marathons, intimate discussions with speakers and trips to UK House of Commons.

(Main Project) Lectures+ (organized by Gabriel Chua, Heather Hong, Celine Toh)

Aim of Lectures+ is to augment the public lecture experience for students at the LSE, by:

1. Organising a pre-lecture seminar where a group of interested students can come together to learn more about the issues discussed in the actual public lecture
2. Injecting interactive elements into the actual public lecture
3. Organising a post-lecture seminar where the students will have an exclusive opportunity to discuss the issues in greater detail with the speaker, deepening their appreciation and understanding of the topic

Lectures+ Events

'ON FANTASY ISLAND' with Professor Connor Gearty to discuss the state of the Human Rights Act in UK with reference to his new book 'On Fantasy Island'

- Brought together 12 students of multiple disciplines together
- Participants who attended the post-lecture seminar had an exclusive opportunity to talk to Professor Connor Gearty

'STALE CRIMES' with Professor Emmanuel Melissaris to discuss whether crimes should have an 'expiry date' beyond which they should no longer be prosecuted, and the implications of such a statute of limitations

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Gender Discrimination and Sexual Slavery: Voices of Yezidi Women (organized by Magdalena Markiewicz)

- Discussion on gender and racial discrimination suffered by Muslim women, especially in a post-Trump and Brexit era.
- The process of radicalization and de-radicalization of female Jihadists were shown through academic research and empowering personal anecdotes.
- Participants had the opportunity to learn more about WAVE (NGO) in its efforts to protect women facing threats of violent extremism in conflict-ridden zones.
- **Speaker(s):**
 - Alia Ahwiti (named one of the 50 most influential Arab women by Forbes)
 - Dr Aiternat (Assistant Professorial Research Fellow at LSE's Middle East Centre)
 - Shimaa Elsayed (Founder of NGO WAVE and from the Amnesty International)
 - Magdalena Markiewicz (Communication manager/ human rights protection trainer at WAVE NGO)
 - Somaye Zadeh (poet)

International Organizations and Companies (organized by Marie de Mitry)

- Discussion questioning the future role of various international institutions such as the UN and EU after the Brexit vote.
- Veronika shared her unique insights from working in these institution and what she considers essential for an international organization to remain relevant.
- **Speaker:** Veronika Dapunt who worked at various EU institutions and headed the Business Affairs Department for one of Swarovski's Executive Board members



Members listen intently to Ms. Veronika Dapunt about the role of the EU today

Diplomacy in Action in collaboration with Grimshaw Society

- An inaugural initiative that allows 6 members the exclusive opportunity to visit the Westminster House of Common to talk to MPs about the intersectionality between Poverty and Sexism (ONE Campaign)

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Conversations with an Undercover Journalist (organized by Magdalena Markiewicz)

- Appreciate the role of Investigative journalism in empowering marginalised groups by uncovering unheard voices.
- Gain intimate insight into the day to day work of those who go to great lengths to discover the truth
- **Speaker(s):** Natasha Bowler and Filippo Brachetti – undercover journalists in Bahrain who filmed a documentary on Bahrain’s controversial policy of revoking activists’ citizenship

Discussion with Population Matter (organized by Vy Nguyen)

- Discussion on population sustainability issues and its impact on the environment
- **Speaker:** Alistair Currie – Head of Campaigns from Population Matters



Members and Charmaine intently listening to Alistair at the Discussion with Population

Alternative Careers Social in Collaboration with Careers Division (organized by Aaron Quak)

- Alternative Careers Social to bring together students who are interested in non-conventional career paths
- Reach of 40 students

Al-Jazeera Movie Marathon (organized by Magdalena Markiewicz & Juyeon Kim)

- A Film Screening of TWO short documentaries: “genocide agenda in Myanmar” & “end of China Inc.”

Events Director: Charmaine (Ruiqi) Low

Events Officer(s): Aaron Quak, Magdalena Markiewicz, Vy Nguyen , Juyeon Kim, Marie de Mitry

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Careers

The careers division aims to maximize career opportunities for students passionate about the International Development and International Affairs. This year we launched several new initiatives such as BAFUNCS Career Series and Mentorship Scheme whilst continuing the successes of Development Case Challenge and the Alumni Internship Panel.

BAFUNCS Career Series

Allow members to gain insights into the day to day work of former professionals at UN and to engage with them on a more personal level.

- Introductory Panel on Career Paths in UN aimed to kick start the series of regular discussions to be held throughout the year with esteemed speakers like:
 - *Maggie Heraty* (Humanitarian Affairs) who has worked with UNHCR and now carries out regular training for NATO corps prior to their overseas assignments
 - *Tina Micklethwait* (Public Relations) who was the Deputy Director of Communications at ILO
 - *Enid Steward-Goffman* (Human Resources/Translation) as Coordinator of HR Policy Development at WHO
- Discussion with John Burley (UNCTAD) who was the Director of Division for Services Infrastructure for Development and Trade Efficiency (SITE)
- Discussion with Dr. Sheila Macrae (UNFPA) who was the Senior Population Adviser at the British Government's Overseas Development Agency (now DFID)

Inaugural Mentorship Scheme

- 25 LSE students with paired with 16 professionals in 1:1 or 2:1 mentee-to-mentor ratio
- Mentees receive guidance, feedback and career tips from mentors in their field of interest
- Professionals who worked for UNDAF, UN Special Representative for International Migration and Development, Child.org, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Department for International Development (DFID), UK House of Commons
- Mentors include Prashant Rao from New York Times, Reem Hasan from Center for Public Policy & Governance and George Plaschinsky from UNDAF



Launch for Mentorship Scheme

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Development Case Challenge

Enable members to hone their analytical, teamwork and presentation skills. Network with professionals from the UN and top development consultancies like Adam Smith International.

- Real life case adapted on the issue of Labor Emigration in the Philippines
- Problem is tackled in teams of 4
- Solution is reviewed by the judging panel consisting of practitioners in the field of International Development



Winning Team in Development Case Challenge with Ronald Skeldon (BAFUNCS) & Josephine Hetherington from Adam Smith International

Internship Panel



Internship Panel in Progress

- Clarify the often complicated and elusive application process to international organizations through intimate discussions with LSE students who have recently completed their internship in different parts of the UN system
- Former interns at Department of Public Information (New York HQ), UN-Habitat (New York HQ), United Nations Office at Nairobi (Kenya), World Health Organization (New York HQ)

York HQ)

Alternative Careers Social in Collaboration with Events Division

- Meet like-minded people in LSE aspiring to go into alternative careers

New Partnership with Civil Service College

- Provide interested students with the opportunity to network with a delegation of Indian Civil Servants from various ministries and departments of India (Department of Commerce, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Labor and employment)

Careers Director: Leticia (Bei) Jin

Careers Officer(s): Tazeen Dhanani, Siwen Pan, Antonia Boeckers, Xizi Luo

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Model United Nations (MUN)



MUN Directors and Officers Goofing Around

Model United Nations is an educational simulation of United Nations or international bodies in which students academically compete as delegates of countries or political figures. The best performing delegates in a committee are acknowledged with awards.

Trainings

Aside from conferences, the year was tightly crammed with training sessions and ensuing socials.

- Training Officer Jonathan Lin organized weekly training sessions
- Crisis Officer Andreas Sorger held two Crisis simulation-training sessions
- An extensive whole day training session was organized per term
- In preparation WorldMUN 2017, the delegation held supplementary weekly training sessions in Lent Term, and visited the Kenyan High Commission to discuss the workings of the foreign service on February 22nd, 2017.

Increased Professionalism

Improved upon the outreach, communication and professional outlook of the division

- New website created by directors and curated throughout the year by MUN Officers
- Collaborated with the Corporate division in reaching out to external enterprises, creating a Pitch-Book and mounting an Annual Fund application

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Conferences and Awards

At conferences, Team LSE reached unprecedented heights in terms of awards amassed. 48 awards, 4 Best Delegation Awards, 25 Chairing Positions

- **University of London Model United Nations (ULMUN)** (October 22nd, 2016)
Head Delegate: Jonathan Lin
Awards: 5 Diplomacy; 5 Chairing Positions
- **Manchester Model United Nations (ManMUN)** (October 28th – 30th 2016)
Head Delegate: Giulia Lima Bianchi
Awards: Best Large Delegation, 3 Best Delegate, 1 Outstanding Delegate, 2 Honourable Mentions, 3 Verbal Commendations
- **Cambridge International Model United Nations (CuiMUN)** (November 4th– 6th 2016)
Head Delegate: Ralph Chow
Awards: Best Small Delegation, 2 Best Delegate, 2 Distinguished Delegate, 2 Verbal Commendations; 4 Chairing Positions
- **Oxford Model United Nations (OxiMUN)** (November 11th – 13th 2016)
Head Delegate: Yeva Agayan Conference Advisor: Kristina Lau
Awards: 1 Diplomacy, 4 Commendation, 1 Best Position paper, 1 Honourable Mention; 4 Chairing Positions
- **Ireland Model United Nations (EireMUN)** (January 27th – 29th 2017)
Head Delegate: Stefan Bogensberger
Awards: Best Delegation, 4 Best Delegate in all 4 Committees, 1 Distinguished Delegate, 1 Honourable Mention, 1 Crisis Cabinet Award; 2 Chairing Positions
- **LSEMUN** February 11th – 13th 2017)
- *Awards: 2 Best Delegate, 1 Honourable Mention*
- **London International Model United Nations (LIMUN)** (February 24th – 26th 2017)
Head Delegate: Janet Wong
Awards: Best Small Delegation, 5 Diplomacy; 5 Chairing Positions
- **Scotland Model United Nations (ScotMUN)** (January 11th – 13th 2017)
Head Delegate: Yi Jun Mock
Awards: 2 Distinguished Delegates 1 Honourable Mention; 4 Chairing Positions
- **Harvard World Model United Nations (WORLDMUN)** (March 13th-17th 2017)
Head Delegate: Kristina Lau
Awards: 5 Diplomacy Awards, 1 Chairing Position

MUN Director(s): Ralph (Wen Kang) Chow & Kristina (Oi Ying) Lau

MUN Officer(s): Stefan Alexander Bogensberger, Yi Jun Mock, Janet Wong, Giulia Lima Bianchi

Training Officer: Jonathan Chuman Lin

Crisis Officer: Andreas-Johann Sorger

Outreach

The Outreach Division is dedicated to improving human development through volunteering the campaigning initiatives. We launched the ProSTART Scheme, developed a series of training in volunteering workshops targeted towards specific issues and led an active campaign team to promote awareness of global issues. A total of £1850.00 were raised and donated.

ProSTART Scheme

This Scheme provides members with the creative opportunity to lead their own volunteering project for a cause they are passionate about, especially if that cause is not fully visible on the LSE Campus. The project(s) will be conducted under the supervision of the LSESU United Nations Society who, in turn, provide the necessary resources, training and advice for the organizers.

'HumansFirst' (main ProSTART) to raise awareness on the cause of refugees
Led by Shanaz Farooqi

Organized **Refugee Week** in partnership with Student Action for Refugees Society (STARS) and fully funded by LSESU Annual Fund organized as series of events including FIVE conferences, opening play of asylum monologues, a photography exhibition and a workshop with Doctors of the World. All proceeds went to Southwark Day Center for Asylum Seekers and Flying Seagull Project.

Day ONE:

- **Conference** explored 'refugee identity', 'legal definition of a refugee' and image of refugees portrayed in the media.

Panelists included:

- *Dr. Giourgiou* – Deputy Head for Department of Media and Communications at LSE.
- *Guliwali Passerley* – Refugee from Afghanistan who fled from the Taliban. Author of 'The Lightless Sky' and Chairperson of Afghan Youth Movement.
- *Emily Miller* – Head of Learning and Partnerships for Migration Museum Project.
- *Ahmad Al-Rashid* – Refugee from the Kurdistan region of Iraq who is now working in the UN studying MSc at SOAS.
- *Anmar Raad* and *Nicci Golland* – Phone Credits for Refugees and Displaced People. So far the organization has far provided 17,000 mobile phone top-ups worth £20, totalling £350,000.

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- **Public Performance** of asylum monologues by professional actors from the charity Ice&Fire.

Day TWO:

- **Crepe Sale** in collaboration with French Society
- **Public Conference** on 'stateless and refugee women' brought together activists, NGOs, lawyers and academics to discuss issues faced by stateless, refugee and asylum-seeking women from different perspectives.

Chaired by Professor Christine Chinkin – Director of LSE's Centre for Women, Peace and Security.

Panelists included:

- *Anna Zobnina* – Chair of European Network of Migrant Women.
- *Representative* – Women for Refugee Women.
- *Freya* – from 'Unofficial' Women and Children's Center spoke about women's experiences within Calais Camp.
- *Terri Harris* – Senior Programs Officer at Global One described how female hygiene kits are distributed in disaster relief zones in Lebanon and Syria.
- *Lisa Gormley* – Researcher at LSE's Centre for Women Peace and Security related international law to issues raised from the rest of the panel.

Day THREE:

- **Workshop** with Doctors of the World explored what sensible policy for healthcare for refugees should look like.
- **Speaker Event** from NGOs working directly with refugees in camps around Europe (mainly Greece) how members can get involved in volunteering opportunities! NGOs included Echo100Plus, The Flying Seagull Project and The Worldwide Tribe.
- **Conference** that examined the challenges faced by various stakeholders with regard to refugee inflows in border countries.

Chaired by Professor Chrisanthi Avgerou.

Panelists included:

- *Karina Sarmiento* – Asylum Access Ecuador.
- *Filippo Dionigi* – LSE Middle East Centre.
- *Mirwais Wakil* – former refugee who now studies at LSE.
- *Daifallah Al-Fayez* – Jordanian Consulate.

Day FOUR:

- **Conference** explored the UK's response to the refugee crisis from various perspectives, examined different facets of the response required and highlighted individual stories.

Chaired by Dr. Stuart Gordon – Chatham House

Panelists included:

- *Dr. Lisa Doyle* – Head of Advocacy at the Refugee Council

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- *Baroness Shas Sheehan* – Shadow Secretary of State for International Development
- *Zarlasht Halaimzai* – Co-founder of Refugee Trauma Initiative

'**Blue Dragon**' (main ProSTART) to support a NGO under the same name that seeks to alleviate issues faced by children in situations of poverty, forced labor and human trafficking in Vietnam. *Led by Toon Jatupitpornchan & Vicky Cheah*

- **Vietnamese Food Stall** (organized by Toon Jatupitpornchan and Vicky Cheah) raised funds for Blue Dragon by selling delicious Bahn Mi baguettes on LSE Campus
- **Winter Wonder Stall** (organized by Toon Jatupitpornchan and Sapna Jain) raised funds for Blue Dragon by selling hand-made bags, hot chocolate, churros, hand-made soaps, dixie candles and other goodies on LSE Campus
- **Charity Soiree** (organized by Hazel Ah Tek) in collaboration with Photography Society. To raise funds for Blue Dragon, we auctioned pictures that captured moments of struggles and bravery in a Blue Dragon child's life. Cabdi Aakhiro, representing Amnesty International, gave a presentation to discuss his perspective on human trafficking

Increasing Awareness

- **Panel** on child poverty for *UN international Children's day*
- **Booth** on *World Aids Day*: handing out red ribbons for people who want to show their support and informational leaflets to let people know more about AIDS
- THREE day long **International Food Fair** commemorated *International Mother Language Day*. National delicacies such as French Crepes and Japanese Rice Balls were sold at the stalls. Global artistic interludes were provided by Music Society.
- A **flashmob** on *UN international Day of Happiness* with partnership of the Dance Club

Training in Volunteering Workshops

- **Children's Education Workshop**: Tricia Young (Director of Child to Child, Ronnie Henderson (Graduate Outreach Officer for ARK), Delphine Dorsi (Executive Coordinator of Right to Education Project) and Rebecca Smith (Program Funding Officer for Street Child) trained members who to become more effective volunteers in education-focused NGOs.
- **Women's Rights Workshop**: Katie Allen (Policy and Programs Grants Manager for Women for Women International) spoke about the core services, achievements of the charity and how our members can become involved both in the charity and on a broader scale for Women's Rights

Outreach Director: Sumati Jain-Semavoine

Awareness Officer(s): Melvin Kan, Julian Kwong

Training Officer: Hazel Ah Teck

ProSTART Leader(s): Shanaz Farooqi (HumansFirst), Toon Jatupitpornchan (Blue Dragon)

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LSE Model UN Conference (LSEMUN)



The 2017 Secretariat

LSEMUN, now in its 8th year, offers a Crisis-only Model United Nations conference, allowing delegates from all around the world to engage in a variety of modern, historical and fictional scenarios from the points of view of those that lived them. This year, we welcomed more delegates than ever, held more crises than ever, and received fantastic reviews, with more than 95% of delegates saying they would like to return next year. The conference was also benefitted by the introduction of the Deus Crisis Software, which received exemplary reviews, as well as the introduction of feedback sessions on the Saturday, smaller Crisis cabinets so all could fully participate, and a newly revamped website (lsemun.co.uk).

The LSEMUN Secretariat would like to thank all those who attended and those who staffed the conference, and now looks forward to welcoming LSEMUN back for its 9th year.

Facts and Figures

- 141 Delegates.
- 50 Crisis Staff.
- 6 Crisis Simulations.
- 13 Best Delegate Awards alongside 13 Honorable Mentions.
- 1 Best Delegation Award, this year presented to Queen Mary University of London.

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The Crises

- **Beginners:**
 - NATO vs. Russia, directed by Yeva Agayan.
- **Intermediate:**
 - The Cuban Revolution, directed by Thassilo Weber.
 - Gangs of Chicago, directed by Andreas Sorger.
- **Advanced:**
 - The French Revolution, directed by Roberta Maggi.
 - Kingdom of Amun, directed by Kyle Lewis Jordan.
- **Special:**
 - Star Wars, directed by Caleb Loei.

Secretary-General: Benjamin James Alford

Director General: Zac Teoh ZhiHao

USG for Crisis: Connor Robert Naylor

USG for Finance: Jonathan Chuman Lin

USG for Socials: Giulia Lima Bianchi



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Corporate and Social Media

Corporate

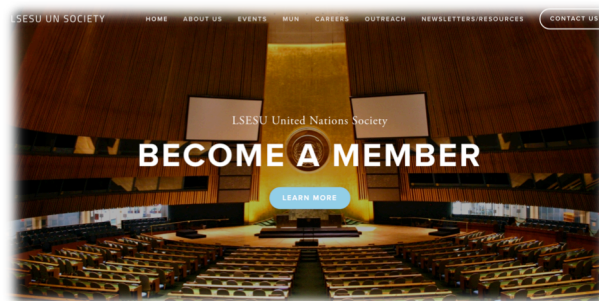
The corporate division aims to establish connections with external organizations for potential sponsorship endeavours. These organizations include political risk think tanks, law firms, investment banks, international organizations and local businesses. This year we formed many local partnerships such as with Snappy Snap and Starbucks on Kingsway. We have also established a new connection with University Marketing Chief of Foreign Policy Magazine.

The LSESU United Nations Society Pitch Book was revamped and liaised with MUN Division over WorldMUN Pitch Book. We were also instrumental in supporting fund applications put forward by the Divisions, especially to the Annual Fund.

The aim of the division next year is to formalize partnerships with our current connections.

Social Media

The Social Media division this year launched a new official website with its own domain and a revamped design to highlight professionalism. Division description, upcoming events and opportunities and newsletters are regularly posted on the website to keep our members update constantly. The other main social media platform we operate on is Facebook where regular event updates are posted. We have reached over 2600 people over a single Facebook Post. This year, we have launched our own student-run blog where members have the chance to creatively express their opinions on global issues. This has received warm reception by our members and we look forward to its expansion in the forthcoming year.



Front Cover of LSESU UNSOC Website

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