Annual Review
2015/16
Dear Friends,

The second academic year at UWC Dilijan College has been another milestone as we celebrated the graduation of the first class. We would like to congratulate students, staff, parents and friends of the UWC community – all of us have become pioneers of this college. Here we start the long journey of the school’s ambassadors and citizens of the world educated in Dilijan. There would never be again the first graduating class of the college and we hope that the alumni would cherish this privilege. We are sure they will make the school proud and show to the whole world what a truly remarkable place Dilijan is.

The graduates of UWC Dilijan performed strongly academically and have been admitted to many universities, among which McGill in Canada, University College London, King’s College and Edinburgh in the UK, Brown, Berkeley, Duke, Yale and Minerva Schools at KGI in the US. We are delighted that a few students decided to take a year out to volunteer with Global Citizen Programme in Ecuador, social youth programmes in Israel and the UN and to participate in Semester at Sea Programme. Some graduates are back in Dilijan to volunteer for local initiatives. This speaks to diverse interests of our alumni.

We would like to single out Mr Shelby Davis who not only provided scholarships to UWC Dilijan College’s graduates along with other UWC graduates to attend US universities but who also announced the Davis-UWC IMPACT Challenge. Through this initiative, the UWC movement patron Mr Shelby Davis will match gifts received by each UWC college up to the value of US$1 million. Every donation made by the UWC supporters counts as we hope to reach the target.

In terms of the composition of the school as we start the third year, here are some figures, as of August 2016:

- 198 students from 72 countries
- 58 students are receiving full scholarships
- 40 students receive nearly full funding (95%-99%)
- 85 students receive partial funding
- Overall 63% of students receive partial funding
- With donors support the college funds $5,530,070 tuition fees
- 6 students have been granted 100 Lives scholarships
- 2 students are recipients of the Amal Clooney scholarship
- 1 student is a recipient of the Rusudan Makhashvili scholarship

There is a change of leadership in the school. John Puddefoot, a Founding Head, who led the college during the first two crucial years, passed on the mantle to Denise Davidson, who, we are confident, will continue to build on what John has achieved.

Our special thanks to the talented teaching, support and technical staff, and of course the students from around the world who make the school what it is and to their parents for believing in UWC Dilijan.

Volunteers on the UWC Dilijan College Boards of Governors and Trustees have continued to work very hard to guarantee the school’s financial viability and further development, and we are very grateful for their dedication.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the UWC Dilijan Founding Patrons, Gagik Adibekyan, Noubar & Anna Afeyan, Vladimir & Anna Avetissian, Mark Kurtser, Oleg Mkrtchan and Sergey Sarkisov & Rusudan Makhashvili, who have provided continued support. We would also like to thank sincerely each and every donor who contributed to UWC Dilijan. We hope that, like ourselves, you find satisfaction in empowering the lives of the new generation whose education, in the words of Nelson Mandela, is “the most important weapon”.

Warmest wishes,

Veronika Zonabend and Ruben Vardanyan
On behalf of the Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees of UWC Dilijan
Aurora Prize Events at UWC Dilijan
The Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity, a project of the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative of the IDeA Foundation, was established on behalf of Armenian Genocide survivors as an expression of gratitude to those who helped save Armenians 100 years ago. The inaugural ceremony took place in Yerevan on 24 April 2016. UWC Dilijan students had an opportunity to meet some of the guests of Aurora Prize ceremony.

George Clooney and Aurora Prize Ceremony Guests
On 23 April the Co-Chair of the Aurora Prize Selection Committee and the Co-Founder of Not On Our Watch Project George Clooney and international activist John Prendergast, as well as friends and supporters of UWC Dilijan, visited the school. The students had the opportunity to share their stories and to participate in the Q&A session. They highlighted to the students the importance of using all available tools to make the world aware of violence and injustice, wherever they may occur. The mission of Not On Our Watch Project is "Drawing upon the voices of cultural leaders to protect and assist the vulnerable, marginalized, and displaced."

Marguerite Barankitse, Inaugural Laureate of Aurora Prize
On 25 April, inaugural Laureate of Aurora Prize Marguerite Barankitse from the Maison Shalom and REMA Hospital in Burundi visited UWC Dilijan. The humanitarian work she has been carrying out during the Burundi Civil War was a true inspiration for all the students, many of whom come from countries with ongoing conflicts. Marguerite Barankitse helped children who were left orphaned during the civil war in Burundi between the Tutsi and Hutu populations. While receiving the prize on 24 April, she said: "When you have compassion, dignity and love then nothing can scare you, nothing can stop you – no one can stop love. Not armies, not hate, not persecution, not famine, nothing." Along with the US$100,000 grant that comes with becoming an Aurora Prize Laureate, Barankitse received US$1,000,000 to support several organisations that have inspired her work: Fondation du Grand-Duc et de La Grande-Duchesse du Luxembourg, Fondation Jean-François Peterbroeck (JFP Foundation), and the Fondation Bridderlech Deelen Luxembourg.

World Famous Chansonnier, Charles Aznavour
On 25 April world famous chansonnier, Charles Aznavour, who participated in the ceremony of the inaugural Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity, visited UWC Dilijan. Students from Armenia, who know Mr Aznavour well, were especially excited to meet him. After the earthquake in Armenia in 1988 he founded the charitable organisation Aznavour for Armenia.

UWC Dilijan Excellence as Public Infrastructure
In May 2016 UWC Dilijan was awarded second prize in the Public Infrastructure Category at the 2016 FIABCI World Prix d’Excellence Awards. Mr Tim Flynn, the school’s architect received the prize on behalf of the school.

Inaugural Graduation Ceremony: Ending with New Beginnings
On 28 May UWCD was filled with excitement. This was the first graduation day in the history of the school, a memorable event for the students and parents, staff and founders, donors and friends. The day started with showing the guests around the campus and sharing the experiences students gained. The official ceremony featured emotional speeches and a hope that although UWCD experience had an end, it was still going to be a beginning of a new thrilling page for every one of the students. Head of College John Puddefoot called this a period of unimaginable challenge and opportunity at the same time. “The challenge is always to live life forward. Talking about creating the future may seem quite odd at first as it is going to happen whether we like it or not. However, we do have a choice about which future we will create.” The formal part was followed by student performances; each of those served as a perfect illustration of the main mission of UWC movement: uniting people, nations and cultures for peace and sustainable future. Indeed, the 94 pioneer cohort of UWCD have established a striking harmony and understanding, which will go a long way in the college history.

Service Day in Dilijan
In August UWC Dilijan College organised a service day aimed at engaging the students and staff in the community life of Dilijan. During the Service Day the students initiated cleaning of Aghstev riverbank, city park, the lake and amphitheatre. One of the activities of the day was going to the public library and helping local staff to repair and classify the books. Another group of students went to the kindergarten in Shamakhyan where some of the UWCD students are quite frequent guests. Those who chose kindergarten as their CAS activity, come here once a week to teach the children English and to play intellectual games.

Graduation Day Projects Showcase
On graduation day UWCD students showcased some of the projects that they had initiated and were passionate about. Projects included:
- Greenhouse
- Accessibility
- Sailing
- Scholarship for a student from Dilijan
- UWC Experience for Armenian students outside UWC
- Local leadership
- Re-apaga (E-waste) in Armenia

As a result of their presentations, some of the projects received generous support from Inclusive Ventures Group, Narine Aghasaryan and Arman Jilavian. Special thanks to UWC Dilijan alumni Mikayel Simonyan and Philipp Woelk and his grandparents Giovanna and Piero Cavagnoli.

University Admissions of UWC Graduates
Canada: McGill University
Estonia: University of Tartu
The Netherlands: Leiden, University College Roosevelt
New Zealand: University of Auckland
UK: Central Saint Martin’s College of Art & Design, King’s College London, Queen Mary University of London, University of Edinburgh, University of Warwick, University College London
US: Agnes Scott College, Bennington College, Brandeis University, Brown University, Carleton College, Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Colorado College, Columbia University, Duke University, Earlham College, Lake Forest College, Lewis & Clark College, Luther College, Methodist University, Middlebury College, Minerva Schools at KGI, St John’s College, St Olaf College, College of Idaho, University of Oklahoma, University of California Berkeley, University of Michigan, University of Richmond, University of Rochester, Wellesley College, Whitman College, Yale University
The Davis-UWC IMPACT Challenge

The Davis-UWC IMPACT Challenge is an initiative to increase the numbers of young people benefitting from scholarships to UWC. The Davis-UWC IMPACT is a challenge to all 16 UWCs to increase their support from individual donors, including alumni, parents, friends and family. UWC supporter Mr Shelby Davis will match gifts received by each UWC college up to the value of US$1 million. Gifts from new donors are matched at 100% and those from existing donors at 50%. Mr Davis will also award the college a bonus match of 100% of the total increase in funds raised. UWC Dilijan is hoping to start availing of matching funds in 2016/17 academic year. Please help us meet Davis-UWC IMPACT Challenge.

UWC DILIJAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Gratitude Scholarships to Benefit UWC

The 100 LIVES and Near East Foundation (NEF) established a joint Gratitude Scholarships Programme, aimed to express gratitude on behalf of the global Armenian community to the people of the Middle East who offered shelter and food to those displaced by the Armenian Genocide over a century ago. Valued at nearly $7 million, the Gratitude Scholarship Programme will provide 100 academic scholarships over the next eight years to at-risk youth from the Middle East who have been affected by conflict, displacement, and poverty. In September of 2016, ten students started their studies in the network of UWC Colleges, six of them will study in UWC Dilijan.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Gratitude Scholarships Benefactors:

- Adibekyan Family Foundation for Advancement
- Levon & Ana Auye
- Ruben Amanbegyan & Veronika Misutina
- Sergey Ambartsumyan
- Garo Armen & Alice Saraydarian
- Taline Demirdjian Bachian
- Mikhail Broitman
- Fruitfull Armenia Foundation
- Pierre & Anne-Sophie Gurdjian
- Mikhail Harutyunyan
- Ruben Harutyunyan & Anahit Antonyan
- Michael Kavookjian
- Vahan & Susie Kololian
- Carolyn Mugar
- Gor Nahapetyan
- Elena Orlova
- Richard Shemesian
- Norair Tevanian
- Nicolaus & Christiane Weickart
- Ruben Vardanyan & Veronika Zonabend

We also acknowledge the support of the donors who chose to remain anonymous.

Amal Clooney Scholarship

This annual scholarship is for a female student from Lebanon who demonstrates a strong interest in human rights and equality issues. It was inspired by esteemed international human rights lawyer Amal Clooney’s integrity, compassion and dedication to the above causes. UWC Dilijan is hosting an Amal Clooney Scholarship recipient for the second year in a row.

The Aman Foundation Scholarship

The Aman Foundation provided a full scholarship to a student from Pakistan to attend UWC Dilijan.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS TO UWC DILIJAN GRADUATES

Scholae Mundi Scholarships to Top 10 non-US Universities

Scholae Mundi provided scholarships to 8 UWC Dilijan graduates to study in one of the 10 best universities outside of the US, which included: University College London, McGill University, King’s College London and University of Edinburgh.

Shelby Davis’s Scholarships to US Universities

Mr Shelby Davis generously awards scholarships to UWC graduates attending US universities. Fifty-five UWC Dilijan graduates received scholarships to the following universities: Bennington College, Brandeis University, Brown University, Carleton College, Colby College, College of the Atlantic, Colorado College, Columbia University, Duke University, Lake Forest College, Lewis & Clark College, Luther College, Methodist University, Middlebury College, St. John’s College, St. Olaf College, The College of Idaho, University of California, Berkeley, University of Michigan, University of Richmond, University of Rochester, Wellesley College, Yale University.
FINANCIAL REPORT
August 2015 to July 2016

EXPENSES in USD

- Employee costs: 3,736,480
- Maintenance & utility expenses: 1,106,986
- Depreciation: 1,486,447
- Direct expenses associated with education process: 631,229
- Library expenses: 57,415
- Communications and IT: 59,874
- Transportation & Vehicle expenses: 38,537
- PR & Marketing: 21,541
- Professional services: 10,716
- Other expenses: 216,838

TOTAL: 7,366,062

DONATIONS: 2,830,766

DENISE DAVIDSON, NEW HEAD OF UWC DILIJAN

Denise Davidson started her headship in July 2016. Denise was Head of Gateways School in Leeds, Great Britain, for 12 years, Deputy Head of Mount St Mary’s School near Sheffield and Senior Mistress of Oundle Public School. She brings to UWC Dilijan nearly forty years of experience working in and inspecting schools and colleges in the UK and involvement in education at an international level. Asked why she chose to take on this position Denise said that she found the whole project enthralling. “This is much more than taking on another school,” she explained, “it is also more than leading another United World College, important though that will be. It is the scope of the whole venture where a school serves the wider community, helping not only bring the world to Armenia but also Armenia to grow into the world. It is this huge vision that I find so exciting and that is the reason why I am both delighted to take up this role and grateful for the opportunities it offers”.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

With Phase I construction a success, plans are underway for Phase II, with the capital projects to include the construction of the Theatre & Performing Arts Centre (estimated cost US$50 million), pictured, Dining Hall (estimated cost US $3.8 million), Boarding Houses (4) (estimated cost US $4.2 million each), and Multi-Function Hall (estimated cost US $4.3 million).

If you are interested in any of the funding opportunities above or providing scholarship support please contact development@uwcdilijan.org.
Dear Donors,

It has been an incredible time. I wish I could convey all the good feelings I have with regard to the UWC Dilijan experience.

I am a Brazilian student who came to UWC Dilijan at the age of 16 with vague ideas of what the struggles to make the world better and build a strong basis within any community are. I am about to leave school with the feeling that I have ability to talk about the international scenario and even believing that I am able to identify problems and find ways to eliminate them wherever I am.

The UWC experience is enriching due to the way students are selected by over 150 national committees and by the cultural diversity of its community. It was specially enriching for me because UWC Dilijan was the place that I found supportive peers and a respectable standard of teaching. I came to school with almost no English. Nowadays, I am much more comfortable with the language. I am able to talk and listen to any English speaker and express myself in a detailed and careful manner.

People taught me that the world is cruel. I do not believe that. I think my thoughts are positive about our future because there are people who bet on other people. Because there are people who trust in the competence of others. I believe our donors have given us this hope. Without the trust they have in us and without the scholarship given to me I would not be so positively changed.

The person who came to United World Colleges Dilijan is truly the same person who is leaving it. However, he is somebody who has been transformed educationally, politically, and emotionally. I matured. I became more careful with what I say. I polished my scientific, linguistic, and humanistic skills. All this is to attest that whenever you, donors, believe that you are not contributing much to the world, think of this in this way: There is nothing better in life than having opportunity to help others reach their dreams. Please, always remember Anne Frank’s words: “no one has ever become poor by giving.”

Perhaps, my words are all I can give to you right now. Perhaps, a “thank you” would be too less in comparison to what I would like to tell you. Anne Frank shines light on the fact that we do not become poor in spirit by helping others; we become certain that our short time on Earth was enough for us to change it to good.

Marcos, Brasil, UWCD’16

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