



# UNAI MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORTS 2013-2014

## Fairleigh Dickinson University

### USA

During the 2013-14 reporting period, Fairleigh Dickinson University engaged in a number of activities that underscore its on-going commitment to UNAI and its principles. The following examples stand out as particularly notable:

In March of 2013, the University celebrated Global Happiness Week. With student organizations holding small events throughout the week on all four FDR campuses, the festivities included a trip to the United Nations on March 20<sup>th</sup>, the official International Day of Happiness. The week's main event, held on March 21<sup>st</sup>, featured poetry, music, and dance from various FDU students and a speech from keynote speaker Prof. Lona Whitmarsh (Psychology) that addressed the challenge of making happiness a lifestyle. Publications provided by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bhutan were distributed to provide an academic context for the contrast between the concepts of Gross Domestic Product and Gross Domestic Happiness.

During the reporting period, FDU's staff undertook a research project on behalf of the Conference of Nongovernmental Organizations (CoNGO) in Consultative Relations with the United Nations. The research project included a survey of CoNGO Substantive Committee members conducted by Fairleigh Dickinson University's Public Mind Institute, a report on substantive committee activities, a report on the effectiveness of CoNGO Substantive Committees with specific recommendations for CoNGO, and a report on amendments to the CoNGO rules designed to improve effectiveness of CoNGO and its substantive committees.

FDU's highly successful Winds of Change program continued its success in 2012-13. Winds of Change is a program created by the University's international students to improve the community's understanding of their countries and the challenges affecting them. Past Winds of Change panels have focused on the Indian Subcontinent, the diverse regions of China, and the Mediterranean and North Africa (MENA) region.

**Links:**

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