

The UN Studies Working Group
NEWS – October 17, 2007

Dear Colleagues,

Autumn greetings from Berlin! We are pleased to provide you with an update on our latest activities, including news from our members:

Past / future events:

Results of online briefing on wiki-based online portal. On September 20, we introduced the main features of our new wiki portal. Thanks to all who participated in this online training session. Based on your valuable feedback, we were able to enhance our tutorial. Please see the updated version at: www.unstudies.org (login: *member*; password: *unstudies*); and contact us with any questions you may have.

Workshop panel at ACUNS 2008 Annual Meeting. We wish to advance our planning on the ACUNS panel in June 2008 (proposed title: "Institutionalizing UN Studies - Progress report on the Working Group on UN Studies"). First of all, we appreciate your interest in participating in this panel! As we mentioned in our last newsletter, we hope to feature activities and projects that are embedded in the working group's overall agenda.

Please let us know if and how you would like to make a contribution to this panel. We will organize a phone conference, preferably in November, for a joint discussion on how to best structure the panel.

Besides this ACUNS panel, we are pleased to provide for an additional forum to discuss and present our work:

Seminar on research and teaching prior to the ACUNS 2008 conference. This first seminar of our working group is scheduled to take place in Bonn on June 3 and 4, prior to the official beginning of the ACUNS conference. We are happy to report that the German UNA (DGVN) will be our partner. Moreover, Manuel Fröhlich of the DGVN Research Council, and a member of our group, has thankfully agreed to be our keynote speaker. See our draft outline at: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectSeminarTeaching2008>.

Again, please let us know if you are interested in this seminar so that we can arrange for a phone discussion about the agenda and key questions, the seminar format (selective presentations or open discussions? who presents what?) as well as to clarify other key questions (who should be invited? funding possibilities?).

If possible, we will try to combine the planning as well as the results of both events – for example, we could present the results of this seminar at the subsequent ACUNS panel. We are looking forward to hearing your ideas!

Next online meeting. Depending on our progress in planning the two events mentioned above, we will schedule our next online meeting. This time, we would like to discuss with you our draft mission statement and project outline, which are currently finalized. We are particularly grateful for John Mathiason's offer to arrange free access for us to the more elaborate conference services of "Elluminate". We will get back to you with further information.

Internet presence / change of email addresses. We are continuing to work on the relaunch of our website. In the near future, we will unite our IGLOO-hosted website and the wiki portal. Our main URL will be: www.unstudies.org (the current address of our wiki portal).

Please also note that Henrike's and Julia's email addresses will soon be replaced by: workinggroup@unstudies.org. You can reach either of them using this email.

News from our Members:

Colloquium on UN and the New Media/Information Age. As one of the key organizers, Michael Platzer invites you to participate in this unique international colloquium that will take place on November 16, 2007 in Wels, Austria. Organized and hosted by WWEDU (World Wide Education, Academic Distance-Learning College in Wels) and ACUNS, this event will be held in an innovative hybrid format, combining an on-site event in Wels with a virtual occurrence mediated through the Internet. For more information about how to participate virtually, please visit: www.acuns.at. The detailed agenda will be circulated by email and posted to our wiki portal.

Second Global International Studies Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia in July 2008. Kirsten Haack is proposing to organize a joint panel on "Supranational leadership and global governance" and seeks members that might be interested in this project. The draft abstract will be circulated by email as well as posted to our wiki portal. For more information about the conference and a call for papers, please visit: http://www.wiscnetwork.org/call_for_papers.php. The deadline for proposals is November 30.

UN Environmental History Project. Please visit our wiki portal for detailed information about the UN Environmental History Project, provided by Maria Ivanova and Susanah Stössel: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectUNEnvironmentalHistorySummary>.

In general, please consider to submit your own articles about your projects and activities.

We will be happy to assist you!

Best wishes,

Julia and Henrike