

Armand Hammer United World College  
of the American West

Class of 1995

Reunion 2005

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Paulina	Ahues	<a href="mailto:p_ahues@yahoo.com">p_ahues@yahoo.com</a>	
Pelesana	Mphakalasi	<a href="mailto:pele.mphakalasi@bmwdealer.co.za">pele.mphakalasi@bmwdealer.co.za</a>	
Philip	Nikolov	<a href="mailto:philip.nikolov@gs.com">philip.nikolov@gs.com</a>	53
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Reyna	Ulibarri	<a href="mailto:u_reyna@hotmail.com">u_reyna@hotmail.com</a>	
Ricardo	Aguilar	<a href="mailto:canche13@hotmail.com">canche13@hotmail.com</a>	
Risana	Zitha	<a href="mailto:risana.zitha@morganstanley.com">risana.zitha@morganstanley.com</a>	
Roisin	Walsh		
Roma	Kessaram	<a href="mailto:romakessaram@hotmail.com">romakessaram@hotmail.com</a>	
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**Name:** Adam A. Chavez

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** Ever-changing and neither here nor there...

**Email:** chavez99@alum.dartmouth.org

**Phone Number:** 703-597-2230

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After being at the UWC in New Mexico I decided that it was about time for a major change. I was so tired of being confined to the small campus, with the small student body, located out in the middle of nowhere, with nothing but trees and mountains around. So I left Montezuma and ended up making a DRASTIC change and moved to the booming metropolis of Hanover, New Hampshire. I attended another small school, with another small student body, nestled in the wooded forests and mountains of the northeast. I also made a drastic lifestyle change and focused my efforts and past times on Snowboarding, Rock Climbing, Kayaking, and I even went crazy and helped create a Search and Rescue team for the region. I guess you could say that I stuck to what I knew and focused on doing what I did best, which was having fun, and trying to finish school.

After college I knew I had to make some major decisions. I was faced with following in the footsteps of my classmates and I was tempted by the allure of corporate recruiting - I-banking, consulting, and marketing. But with my vast experience waiting tables, working at outdoor stores, and instructing snowboarding, climbing, and kayaking, and working as a Wilderness EMT, I instead had hopes after college of moving to the west, instructing, and leading hiking trips. If anything, I briefly considered the marketing angle in the hopes of eventually getting a job at Burton Snowboards, just up the road in Vermont. I also had high hopes of coming back to the UWC and working with Tom Lambert as a Wilderness Coordinator. I was a certified EMT, and an experienced and trained outdoor sports instructor, with dreams of leading the inexperienced into the woods, onto the mountains, over and under the water. I also contemplated working with something regarding my love for Latin America. I had focused my studies on Human Geography and Latin American Studies, and had formulated my opinions of the state of affairs and the geo-political influence of the US in the region. I took my experience working and playing in the outdoors, and combined it with everything I had learned at the bastion of conservatism that my college was stereotyped to be, and folded it into my education at the only high school in America that had a staunch socialist club, and I made a final decision regarding my intended future. With all of this in mind I did what anyone in my position would do... I took a 9-5 job in Washington DC working for the United States government.

So for the last six years, more or less, I have served my country, traveled the world, done what I can to fight terrorism, and tried to learn the inner workings of Marti's "belly of the beast". Working for "THE MAN" has been great. I've spent time in the world's "garden spots" and have been able to contribute in the best way I can, which is in support of U.S. and coalition troops around the world.

I return to New Mexico at least once a year to see relatives and I almost always stop by Montezuma to see the new posh facilities at the country club that is loosely called an academic institution. I reminisce of the good ol' days and wonder frequently what my classmates are doing at the far reaches of the earth. I had a girlfriend who used to pick up my UWC Kaleidoscope and say jokingly that reading it made her sick because I went to school with and surrounded myself with "overachievers". I would laugh and then think to myself that she was right. For the most part we are all over achievers, and each and every one of us have the personalities that will drive us to do good, help others, and follow our hearts to the things we love.

I'm not sure where my future will take me, but I intend to go back to the thick of things and help where I can. I have no doubt that I will run into somebody, as I did with Paola in Kosovo, and Laura in Colombia. I just hope that at the 15 and 20 year reunions I will still be snowboarding, kayaking, hiking, and continuing with my newest hobbies, mountain biking and skydiving. So if anyone is near DC, LA, Iraq, South America, Germany, or New Mexico, in the future, look me up, because I'll probably be around and ready to have fun.



**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

Adam in mountains.

Adam with long hair in Balkan city.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:** Adam's EPIC Adventures

Since leaving the UWC, I have hitchhiked eight hours from rural Maine after my car broke down; I got lost and spent the night in the mountains of Ecuador with no tent, no gear, and no food; I got lost in Denali National Park in a torrential down pour, turned snow storm on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I picked up an elderly campesino couple, whose flock of goats were stolen from them, at 11 o'clock at night, at over 16,000 feet in Peru, after my girlfriend got altitude sickness, I got stuck in a highland village surrounded by coca plants in Bolivia after the campesinos rioted and road blocked every way into La Paz; I had to help carry a friend down a mountain in New Hampshire after he fell while we were back country snowboarding, and he got a concussion; I wrecked my girlfriends car in a snow drift on the Canadian border; and I once got shot at by U.S. soldiers who didn't recognize my vehicle.

So lesson learned... DON'T TRAVEL WITH ADAM.



**Name:** Alan Tsang

**Previous Name** (if any change):

**Address:** 4808 Emerson Ave. S  
Minneapolis, MN 55419  
USA

**Email:** tsanga13@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 612-341-1181 (h), 612-770-2339 (cell), 952-402-2498 (w)



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Left NM for Rensselaer (NY) where I got a degree to design airplanes... then proceeded to get a job that has absolutely nothing to do with airplanes. Off to Minneapolis I went to become a corporate mouse-jockey at a disc drive company. But then I was rescued from the doldrums by the love of my life. We got engaged in Central Park over a lovely December weekend, had a wonderful wedding in Minneapolis in July '03, then spent two of the best weeks of my life in Greece. Laura and I now live in a little 1 \_-story turn-of-the-century bungalow by the city lakes in Minneapolis. We own two very silly cats, one of which thinks he's a dog. But they're so sweet (when they're not begging for food)! We're expecting our first baby girl in October, and we can't wait!

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

Laura won't let me admit this publicly, but we met at a cheesy pick-up bar in downtown Minneapolis. On the night we met, she told me she went to junior high with a girl that went to AHUWC. She would've been in the class of '96, but the klutz-brain that I am, I couldn't remember who she was talking about. I searched through the '95 yearbook – she wasn't there! It wasn't until I called up Mohammed that I figured out it was Becky Odoms. Duh - we were in the same orientation group, not to mention Project Week together in Mexico! So now, we just pretend that we met through a mutual friend.



**Name:** Alicia Estrella  
**Address:** Calle Treviño  
1 bis 4to I  
28003 Madrid-España  
**Email:** [aliciaestrella@gmail.com](mailto:aliciaestrella@gmail.com)  
aestrella2@yahoo.es  
**Phone Number:** (34) 635589251



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Right after the UWC I went back to Ecuador and started medical school at the public university in Quito. Those were 7 hard years with lots of studying and nights at the hospital without sleeping but also a great time for learning, making good friends, having fun, and doing politics. I graduated with honours on 2002 and then I spent a year doing the Rural Medicine which is basically a year as the only doctor of a lost town. I chose a small town up in the Andes (10000 ft) called Tocachi, the town were my father did his rural medicine 35 years before. It was an incredible year that gave me not only practice as a doctor, but above all true knowledge about people, their needs, feelings, and reality. My time there was a rewarding experience and a lesson about hard work, sharing and solidarity. Then I took some time to travel around Ecuador to some remote breathtaking places and to do a medical brigade in the Amazon jungle.

Last year I moved over to Madrid to get prepared for a national exam in order to do my medical residency here, and a couple of months ago I started the program on Endocrinology in “Puerta de Hierro” University Hospital in Madrid.

So, at the moment, my plans are 4 more years of endocrinology at the hospital here, my PhD. and later, hopefully, some studies and work on Tropical and Community Medicine. Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):







**Name:** Amy Karon

**Previous Name** (if any change):

**Address:**

**Email:** aekaron@wisc.edu, karon\_amy@yahoo.com



**Phone Number:** 608-239-4406

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After studying anthropology and environmental science at Bryn Mawr College, I returned to rural northern New Mexico to help start an NGO that did community-based economic development in a tiny little village in the mountains. After many adventures that included narrowly escaping a badger attack, chopping my own firewood, and living alone without a phone in a 200-year-old house with a false storefront, I moved to San Francisco.

Here I did another year of NGO work and unfortunately got thoroughly sick of non-profit program development. I realized that my life dream was to slave away in grad school for 4-6 years so I could get paid twice minimum wage and be asked “so how come you aren’t a REAL doctor?” for the rest of my life. Yes, it was time to apply to vet school!

I moved to Madison, Wisconsin for veterinary school in the fall of 2002, and spent the next three years in the classroom taking 96 exams that covered everything you ever wanted to know about dogs and cats and horses and cows and pigs and sheep and cows and goats and ferrets and birds and turtles.

I’m now immersed in clinical rotations. During vet school, I maintained my sanity by marrying Mudit Tyagi, the best husband in the world, three separate times (twice in India, and once here) and adopting two lovely mixed-breed herding dogs and two extraordinarily bullheaded cats.

I’m starting a Master’s in Public Health this fall, and am planning on eventually doing zoonotic infectious disease epidemiology while volunteering as an emergency/relief vet in underserved areas as I’m able. No kids yet, but we’re planning on bringing a few along to the next reunion!

**Fun fact:**

I am very, very good at expressing anal glands.



**Name:** Ana and Håkon Fonseca Nordang

**Previous Name (if any change):** Ana Fonseca & Håkon Nordang

**Address:** 1600 South Eads Street, Apt. 419 South, Arlington, VA 22202, USA

**Email:** [anafonseca22@hotmail.com](mailto:anafonseca22@hotmail.com), [hnordang@gmail.com](mailto:hnordang@gmail.com)

**Phone Number:** +1 703 271 0040



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

We probably didn't even say goodbye to each other when we left the UWC... Ana returned to Portugal for a year, before doing her undergrad at the University of Canterbury in Kent, England, whilst Håkon went directly to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. It didn't take long until we met up again, however, and it seemed the spark was still there, and now we've been together ever since.

After university, we tried living in Norway for a (very short) bit (too cold and dark!), then we both worked at the Lester B. Pearson Peacekeeping Centre in Canada for about a year. After that Håkon returned to the UK to continue his studies, whilst Ana got a job at a business consulting company in Washington, DC. After another two years of battling the long-distance thing, Håkon finally relocated to DC where he has since been working on international development issues. We finally got married on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2003, in Lisbon, and celebrated with family and friends, including some UWCers.

Since then Ana has started, and completed the first year of, a part-time MBA in DC whilst working fulltime. Håkon is still working on development, and has over the last little while been concentrating on projects and analytical work in Africa. Otherwise, we're spending whatever little spare time we have trying to figure out the Grand Plan – e.g. what to do and where to live when we grow up!

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

Whoever thought you could find true love at the age of 16? We did, as probably now most of you are aware. But in a sense, I believe we all found true love at the Armand Hammer – with all our sisters and brothers from all corners of the world, who for some reason or other were thrown into or chose to share the same space for a period of 2 years. But it is also a cruel thing that after these 2 years together we were all forced to go our separate ways. The fact that most of us now 10 years on are taking the journey back to Montezuma just to see the “kids” we shared some of our most important and life-changing moments with, must be a reflection of this true love.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

In the name of international understanding and learning about new cultures: Ana spent a summer working in Norway as a troll! Håkon, on the other hand, got off easily, and only had to learn to speak Portuguese.



← This is Ana!



**Name:** Andrej Salner  
**Previous Name (if any change):**  
**Address:** Palackeho 14  
81102 Bratislava  
Slovak Republic  
**Email:** asalko@yahoo.com  
**Phone Number:** +421 905 243387

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

1995-1998 Brandeis  
1998-2000 Bratislava (worked for an election watchdog as Press Relations Directors and then for Reuters as correspondent)  
2000-2001 Edinburgh (did my masters in econ)  
2002- Bratislava (working at an NGO and running a tourism website)

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I have learned you get treated better with short hair and glasses.



**Name:** Arlene Santos McCain

**Previous Name (if any change):** Arlene Pascual Santos

**Address:** 900 Murphy Lane, Virginia Beach VA 23464

**Email:** mccainas@evms.edu

**Phone Number:** 757-962-6608

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

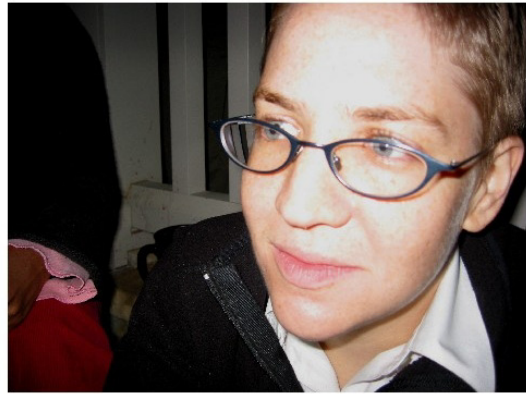
Graduated from Georgetown Univ. in 1999, with a BS in Biology.  
Worked 4 years in labs in MD and NC. Married Matt McCain  
April 6, 2002. Started at Eastern Virginia Medical School in 2003.  
Had a son, Luke Thomas, on February 2, 2005.



# bela august walker

1199 hopewell road  
downingtown, pa 19335  
united states (parent's address)

bela77@gmail.com  
406.690.9154 (current cell)  
610.873.6178 (parents)



it's hard to actually been spent most school – first college,



imagine it's ten years. i've of that time in at bryn mawr where i majored in history of the americas and studied for a



year in quito, ecuador. after that, i moved to new york city and spent a year working for a ngo doing u.s.-cuba relations, where i decided to go to law school. i spent the next three years at columbia law school (overlapping with jason the first year and roma the second), focusing on law & sexuality and critical race theory, then another year in nyc clerking in the u.s.

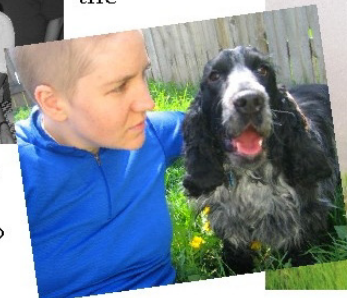


district court for the southern district of new york. this past year, i have been working and living in billings, montana, for judge sidney r. thomas on the ninth circuit court of appeals, which has given me a chance to meet up with many uwcers on the west coast, including estelle, carmen, nancy, luke, lana, seth, charades, amrita, anthony, and melvin – as well as full dose of the

a



complexities and idiocies of u.s. law. as for what comes next, i still have to find that out.





Name: Betsey Hosler

Email:

So let's see, **Name:** Betsey Hosler

**Email:** emhosler@yahoo.com

So let's see,

I'm enrolled in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard's Masters of Public Administration program. In my previous life, I studied for a Masters of Industrial and Labor Relations and worked in the corporate world for three years. Determining that my job was just silly, I returned to school for my current program. This summer, I'm living proof that you're never too old to be an intern as I work as an analyst for the Government Accountability Office. As always, I'm also involved with a few GLBT nonprofits, doing whatever work presents itself. And now I'm disturbed by how little has changed in 10 years. Best to you all!



**Name:** Bradley Haumont  
**Address:** 1426 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Omaha, NE 68108-3614  
**Email:** panrojo@cox.net  
**Phone Number:** 402-516-4657 (Home)  
 402-346-1132 (Work)  
 402-346-0151 (Work Fax)



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I piddled around for a while, but eventually settled in Omaha, Nebraska, eight years ago. My partner, Bruce, and I have been together for the last seven years. I worked as a database administrator while I worked on my undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska. After I got my B.S. in Economics, I went to law school at Creighton University. I graduated from law school in May, and I will take the Nebraska bar exam at the end of July. Assuming I pass the bar, I will join a small law firm in Omaha that specializes in family law, estate planning, and gay/lesbian rights.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



Bruce

I published my first law review article this spring in the St. Louis University Public Law Review. *Miss Susan's Etiquette Tips for the Socially Conscious Judge: A Guide to Honorable Conduct Toward Gays and Lesbians in the Courtroom.* I co-wrote it with Susan Ann Koenig, a partner at my law firm. We styled the article as letters from fictional judges to a fictional advice columnist in order to point out ridiculous things that real judges have done in actual cases involving gays and lesbians. It's a fun article. If anyone wants to read it, I have extra copies available. Just send me an email.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

*My first court appearance was an uncontested name change hearing. I won. The client was happy. It was a great legal victory.*



**Name:** Carlos Varela

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** 619 West 140<sup>th</sup> St. #4H  
NY, NY 10031

**Email:** [caitos@yahoo.com](mailto:caitos@yahoo.com)

**Phone Number:** 917.822.7246

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After Grad, Luis and I packed our bags and headed to Houston, TX where we worked tirelessly until we saved enough to finance our “European vagabonds” tour. After the five month adventure, I headed back to the States in December and began studying Economics at the University of Houston.

Not surprisingly I burned out quickly and decided to take time off and travel across the U.S. My hopes were to do a cross-country road trip but I could find no one to come with me. However, if anyone is up for it....

In need to travel regardless, I bought some travel vouchers and flew out to the east coast, with my first destination being New York City.

For the next several weeks I traveled to the major east coast cities always returning in between to N.Y. and found that I couldn't leave it. My immediate travels ended abruptly but happily.

The Big Apple was to be my new home. Risana, my partying friend was here working as an investment banker. He and I would hang out often but not for very long since his job was always calling him in. At this point I was weighing in on my career choices, and I decided to do a complete u-turn and start from scratch! I enrolled at the City College of New York and Majored in Electronic Design and Multimedia with photography as my main field of study.

I am now a freelance photographer. My work focuses primarily in fashion, headshot, and wedding photography. I have three websites in the works; hopefully they will be up by the time of the reunion.

**Things I have learned while living in New York in the last couple of years:**

- The word Houston is pronounced VERY differently here than in the rest of the U.S
- Texas is just as everyone says it is (You just don't see it that way until you leave it).
- Risana belongs in New York.
- Douglas Reed is alive and well (he's my roommate now).
- NYC has the best bagels and pizza (come and let me prove it to you).

**Funny or interesting stories:**

I have been working as a caterer/bartender since I've been in new york as one of my side jobs. During that time I have shaken hands with several presidents ( one of them I actually met when we were both leaving the restroom and shook his hand, but then later realized that he hadn't washed his hands...) scared president Clinton, almost got into fights with Spike Lee, and Usher (on different occasions), and talked or met dozens of world leaders and movie stars. But I think that maybe one of my favorite stories was when a friend of mine bumped into an artwork at Christie's (some sort of lamp contraption) where the bulb was one of the few visible pieces, broke the bulb, ran to the hardware store, replaced it with a similar bulb and it went on to sell for over half a million with no one the wiser!





**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, WhWaterver you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

People and the bonds you make are what make the UWC's so special. (1999-2002)



(1999-2002)



(Carmen's Page)

**Name:** Clio Knowles  
**Email:** Clio.Knowles@kerzner.com  
**Phone Number:** 954 224 1110



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After graduation, I took a year off, and spent some time traveling in Europe and the US, before heading to Mexico for six months and working on an ecological ranch with Pontus Ohrstedt. The following fall, I went to drama school in LA, and eventually graduated with a Post Graduate degree in Acting from a school in London. After working in the UK for a while, I accepted a job back in the Bahamas with an international hotel company, and moved back home. After a year or so, I quit the corporate world and took off traveling again, spending time in Asia and eight months living and traveling in Australia. I then returned to the UK and a new job with my old company, before being moved to Florida to work in Global Human Resources, which is where I am today.

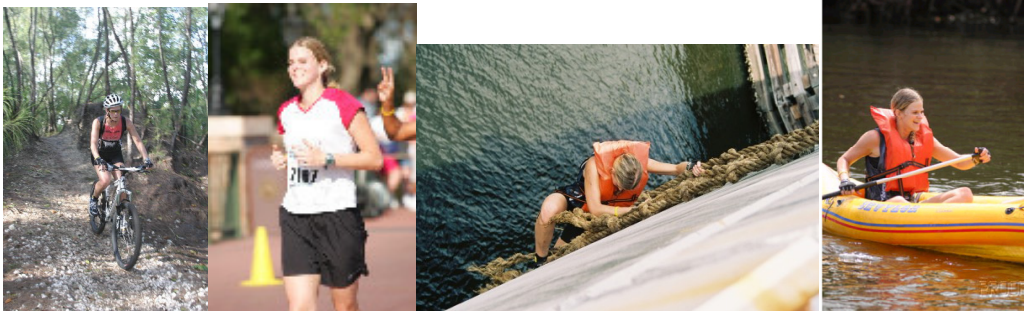
From drama school to human resources... How did that happen?! Life has taken many twists and turns since those UWC days, but I don't regret any of them, even they weren't quite what I had imagined. It is our experiences that make us who we are, and although we cannot carry the past with us, it is inside us, and helps define our futures. I have had some amazing experiences and my life is full of friends and adventures. Who could ask for anything more?

There will always be things we wish we could do and there will always be changes waiting to happen. I don't claim to know the secrets to happiness, but if you implement change (for the good) wherever possible and try anything and everything at least once, then by trying, you may succeed at more than you realize!

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

My time at the UWC helped instill a love of the outdoors, that has most recently found an outlet in a new sport - adventure racing. I finally learnt how to ride a bike, (don't ask!) and now I race with a team named "Alien Octopus". Most races are between 8 and 24 hours, although next year I hope to enter an expedition race of 3-5 days. Race disciplines include biking, kayaking, hiking, running, navigating, ropes skills, and whatever other special tests the race directors decide to throw at you. (Thanks for the map and compass skills, Tom!) But the most important thing is that they are a whole lot of fun. At least, it's fun a week later when you're telling the stories! © So remember: "Be sure to live your life, because you're a long time dead!"

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Conrad Dombrowski

P.O. Box 204  
Manson's Landing, B.C.  
VoP 1K0  
Canada

E-mail: dandeliongarden@hotmail.com  
Phone: (250) 935-6778



**10 busy years at a glance...**

- 1995 Graduated UWC then went on a personal journey of discovery to Thailand and India, lived in the Jungle.
- 1996 Travelled to to Norwegian UWC to see my folks, then went to Trent University and went tree planting.
- 1997 Met Sarah (now my wife) at Trent U., travelled in the Yukon, made many didgeridoos and played them.
- 1998 Drove accross Canada with Sarah, lived in my van, spent a year living on Haida Gwaii studying Herbalism.
- 1999 Returned to University to get mey B.A. in "Cosmolgies of Nature", played much music, easy year.
- 2000 Big Year! My son Osha was born, Sarah and I still stayed full time university. Crazy year.
- 2001 Graduated Trent and went to Queen's University to get my B.Ed. in "Outdoor and Experiential Education".
- 2002 Graduated Queen's, handfasted (married) with Sarah, moved up north to teach at a First Nations school.
- 2003 My daughter Aislin was born and we all moved back to Canada's west coast to Cortes Island to teach.
- 2004 Continuing to teach at an alternative elementary school focussing on many UWC ideals.
- 2005 Still teaching grades 1, 2, 6, 7 & 8 while working hard to buy land on Cortes Island with a 2 and 4 year old!



Living my life in a beautiful and joyous way!



**Name:** Dario Betti

**Address:**

I live in London, my last address:  
125 Camberwell Road, London, SE5 0HB  
United Kingdom  
But 'home' is still at  
XXV Aprile, 24  
Borgo San Lorenzo (FI)  
50032 Italy

**Email:** [dariobetti@yahoo.com](mailto:dariobetti@yahoo.com) or [dbi@ovum.com](mailto:dbi@ovum.com)

**Phone Number:** Mobile phone + 44 7989687507



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Well, this could be short. I always wanted to study how to run media, so after the UWC I went to Leeds University, England, for a BA in Communication Studies and Management. Leeds was great despite the horrible weather. After that I thought I didn't get enough of it. So I ended up in Stirling, Scotland, to study more media management, and enjoy even worse weather conditions. After my MSc in Media Management was time to grow up and get a job. I got job, but I don't about the growing up bit yet. Six years later and I am still in the same job (any offers out there?) as a New Media Analyst at a small consulting company called Ovum, in London. Private life? Well after the UWC I thought one should keep on meeting interesting, challenging, different, funny, intelligent guys and girls. They don't come as easily, but I've found quite a few. Life is still fun!

Whatever I want?....hmmm





**Name:** Dustin Lipson

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** Stavanger, Norway (address unknown)

**Email:** dustin.lipson@ge.com

**Phone Number:** none

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I spent two years at Fairfield University in CT. A primarily upper class Irish Italian Jesuit school for Northeasterners. Quite a change from the UWC, but a decent education. One year in Germany in between the two at Fairfield and one BA degree with majors in German, Econ, and Religious Studies. I like to keep my options open. After grad, off to Oxford to study in the PPE program...God knows why anyone would need another BA degree, but hey what the hell. After I came to my senses, I dropped out of school and went off to work for GE (General Electric). My grandfather, mom, stepfather, and brother did it, so why not join the family. I had plans to go to law school somehow believing I would make it to politics from law school. After rejections from most and one wait list from U-Chicago (thanks guys), followed by a rejection (piss off Chicago), I'm still with GE...and now very glad I stayed. Over the past four years, I've traveled to over 40 countries and have lived in Australia and now in Norway. The work is challenging (don't ask) and I love the idea of limitless opportunities. Four years ago...through a GE connection of course, I met my wife, Christine...she's a yoga teacher in becoming and an adventurer for life. We were married last week in Hartford, CT. Present were Pontus, Ben, Kathryn, and Soren.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

The UWC was the most formative experience of my life. Ten years on that realization only gets stronger. I've never met more amazing people in one place who changed my life in so many ways for the better. Thanks to you all...and I wish you the best of everything 10 years on.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

Exciting experience...I've finished two Ironman triathlons (2.4mi swim, 112mi bike, 26.2mi run). There's something about suffering and learning about oneself that always seem to go hand in hand. I'll probably begin training for a third as my run still needs some work.



**Name:** Edward Weatherly  
**Phone:** 604 338 8014  
**Address:** Suite 1404 - 1288 West Cordova Street,  
V6C 3R3  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada



A brief synopsis of the last 10 years since having graduated from UWC spans from entering the University of Toronto in the fall of 1995 to me living at a recovery house in Vancouver, British Columbia. I left U of T largely due to me having a psychotic episode; later I was diagnosed with schizophrenia. I spent two years after leaving university on a quest to work as a DJ/graffiti pop artist and lived between Toronto and Montreal. I experienced psychosis during my journey that eventually led me to move to Calgary, Alberta closer to my family. I lived there for 3 years working at a Casino full time but in my spare time working in my home studio on my art and music. I moved to Toronto (still experiencing a degree of psychosis) to live there and follow my dream to produce art and new media culminating in my first exhibition of my artwork at a gallery in the gay village. Shortly thereafter I moved to Vancouver, B.C. to enter a drug treatment program where I am currently spending my time working on being healthy, clean and spiritually in touch as well as being an artist.

UWC had such a profound impact on the formation of my heart and soul that it's hard to describe in words the extent of just how much the UWC family is important to me. The effect of the ideals of peace, love and international understanding that I experienced while spending 2 years living in Montezuma will always be at the very core of my being. The friendships forged there and the memories that I have of all of you will be with me forever. I feel honored to be a part of an extraordinary movement that has so much potential for positive global change. I am extremely sad I cannot attend this year's reunion to see everyone, but I hope that at another time in the near future we can be together again just as we were during those magical years.

Even having been in and out of psychosis during the last 10 years I was blessed in 2001 to create with my family a company called IDEGO that produces social art media. Our company was created to be a positive voice for awareness and understanding of a whole spectrum of social issues. IDEGO is currently producing a 3D animated social docudrama based on my life and artwork. You can check out the progress of our film entitled My Self, My Message, purchase film-related products in The X Shop or a piece of my artwork in The X Gallery and of course discover more about our mission at [www.myselfmymessage.com](http://www.myselfmymessage.com). The film's aim is to educate people about some of my diverse struggles such as mental illness, homelessness, homosexuality, HIV and addiction in an educational but entertaining way so that others can benefit from what our company is all about: helping people feel good about who they are, within the context of art.



**Name:** Emre Bayrak

**Address:** 352. Sok. Mimko Apt. 14/14  
06800

Ümitköy/Ankara Turkey

**Phone:** 90(312)236 35 88

**GSM:** 0535 310 50 00

**e.mail:** [yebayrak@ubak.gov.tr](mailto:yebayrak@ubak.gov.tr)



Dear Friends,

I feel a bit nervous writing about myself as I always have. I have been up to many things since the last goodbye day in Montezuma. I have changed many places and schools, met with many people and ended up as a civil servant in Ankara working for the Ministry of Transport. Just as I felt like I have put myself into a certain shape, the Reunion and the idea of seeing old friends added a new dimension to my life.

In fact I am quite a retrospective person. After graduation, I ended up at the University of Chicago taking the Common Core classes. I have in fact survived the coldest winter of the Century in Chicago. But soon I gave up studying and indulged in things that I have not done before. In fact, without noticing it or not I gave myself a year of relaxation however, it cost me my good standing at the University of Chicago. I came back to Turkey, took classes at the Bogazıcı University in Turkey, in fact it was the best university to me in Turkey. It had a nice view of the Bosphorous and if I studied hard there I would make it back to the University of Chicago, which was a place I had grown a lot and fell in love... I made it back to U of C. But my love was now in Edinburgh, so I tried to study and study and got over the academic probation. I did not study in winter and spring which cost me a lot of money and time and another year. So, 3 years after graduation I ended up in my own country once again. I transferred to this new university called Bilgi University and changed my major as international relations. I made myself study there for 3 years, graduated; and then” started a Masters At Bogazıcı University in Political Science and International Relations. There I was infatuated by this woman from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and aimed for its exams. I made it till the oral exam, damn I failed. After 3 years of foreign policy study, I could not pass the exams. Then, it is simple and easy. I started a PhD in International Relations and then started working for the Ministry of Transport in Ankara. Now after 10 years from graduation and 8 years away from a country I had done so much in the past, I am with you again. As I was driving my car in the barren landscape of Ankara this idea came up to me as an eternal feeling. Whatever we have done in New Mexico, it was good and meaningful because we were young, intelligent ,talented and we cared for each other. So, what’s next? I do not know... Most of you got married and have children. I know that I will be in Turkey for many years trying to do things but I also know I will be coming for many frequent visits to see friends and getaway family. I will also try to do my best for my country and the civilization as a whole. I hope that Reunion will shed light into our lives expanding our knowledge of each other and ourselves. With my best wishes to you all...

Emre





**Name:** Estelle Davis  
**Address:** 8619 58<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Elmhurst, NY  
11373

**Email:**  
estelle\_davis@yahoo.com  
**Phone Number:** 323-820-  
7313



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Ok, after grad I spent some time pulling espresso while living with my parents. I used my income to spend 6 fabulous months touring Europe. I came back, and pursued an International Studies degree at the University of Washington in Seattle, with a decent amount of time off to travel in Mexico, Cuba and throughout the US. I graduated in 2001, and moved to Los Angeles where my boyfriend Chris was getting his Masters in Fine Arts from University of California Los Angeles. LA was an adjustment, but I learned to love the amazing weather, the beaches, mountains, the galleries and museums, and the great diversity from East to West. I worked for the last 4 years at a non-profit legal services agency, working primarily with children in foster care. My job has taught me so much, and I'm grateful for the friendships and personal growth. This, along with the community organizing and lobbying work I'd done in college, helped me decide to go to law school. Starting mid-August, I will be attending City University New York, a school completely dedicated to social justice law. I'm very excited to move to NYC, and hoping to see more UWC folks there.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

The UWC had its difficult moments for me, but the education and the people made it formative and special. I've really enjoyed putting together the face book and getting back in touch with so many old friends. I can't wait to see you!

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience:**

Health consciousness has been a theme through these fun facts, so I'm going to contribute in the same vein. Carmen Balber and I decided about a year ago to take up yoga, which has been calming and energizing for me. When Nancy Egan moved to LA in 2004, she talked me into quitting smoking and doing a triathlon with her. We started small, with a sprint triathlon, and are now training to do a full-length Olympic triathlon. Having not run in 10 years, I'm pretty happy with having had friends who helped motivate me to get back to that healthy place.

**A funny story:** While living in Seattle, my boyfriend Chris was often surprised by the random people who would show up, sit down and talk in code about people from all over the world, disappear just as quickly. He started referring to the UWC as "that cult." So now I'm bringing him to the reunion to see the origins of the cult.



**Name:** Eyal Bloch

**Address:** 29 Mohaliver st.,  
Yehud 56208  
ISRAEL

**Email:** [bloche@gmail.com](mailto:bloche@gmail.com)  
[bloche@bgu.ac.il](mailto:bloche@bgu.ac.il)

**Phone Number:** +972-52-3407167



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

As required, after graduation I got back home to Israel, and got into active service in the Navy. After long 6 years in service, I retired as a Navy 1<sup>st</sup> Lt., and finally had the time to travel the world a bit – I spent few months in South- America, and a bit in the US. Today, 10 years after the end of my "high-school years" I'm finally back in school – going thru a B.Sc. degree in Biology at the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, down-south on the edge of Israel's desert.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

One small thing – after returning home, I used to tell my friends that "one of the nicer things about going to the UWC is that now I have someone to call to in pretty much any part of the world...". And yet, only after visiting Martin's place in Buenos Aires, and later on having him, and Mariana visiting me here in Israel, I finally came to realize that it is not just a slogan, but a true fact.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

While traveling thru South America, and trekking some mountains – I found myself reflecting on those "wilderness expeditions" we did during our days at the college – I felt they did teach quite a bit on how to get along out there.



**Name:** Gabrielle Moore

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** 350 C Lafayette Rd. Apt. 1G  
Metuchen, NJ 08840

**Email:** Mooregab76@aol.com

**Phone Number:** (732) 516 – 0743



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I attended the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Science in New York City, and received a degree in Chemical Engineering. Rather than sell my soul to an oil or pharmaceutical company, I began working as an environmental engineer for a consulting company in New Jersey shortly after graduating. I am still with the same company. I do air quality, water treatment and wastewater treatment design work for New Jersey and New York. In the last year and a half, I have revamped my lifestyle with diet and exercise. I act in renaissance faires in my spare time. As geeky as it sounds, it is tons of fun dressing up and playing at being a wench. I am currently pursuing a masters part time in environmental engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology and I hope to take the Professional Engineer's exam in October.  
No husband or kids, as of yet. I do have a niece and two nephews, though.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

Last year I went to Tulum, Mexico for Bikini Boot Camp and participated in a Temezcal, or mayan sweat lodge. It was a really amazing experience that taught me a lot about my own limitations.



**Name:** Hili Tsarfati

**Address:** This is my mom's address since I  
move a lot: 4 EMIL-ZOLLA STREET,  
APT.#6,  
TEL AVIV, 63466  
ISRAEL.

My current Canadian address:  
33 Harbour Sq. #1626  
Toronto, ON, M5J-2G2,  
CANADA

**Email:** [hilitsarfati@yahoo.com](mailto:hilitsarfati@yahoo.com) ,  
[hili@gravityvfx.com](mailto:hili@gravityvfx.com)

**Phone Number:** Israel +972.3.5228415  
Canada +1.416.893.7480



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

So...I always said it , but no one believed me...However, I did get married to get out of the army! I married my gay friend Itamar (PC'94), and spent my "army years" studying . I started at the Fine Arts Department at "The Bezalel Academy" in Jerusalem. But I hated the city. So...After a year, I moved back to Tel Aviv where I finished my 4 years of 'Animation and Digital Media' studies. This is also where I met my current husband (and the love of my life)- Yuval. We only started dating 2 yrs after we graduated...but that's another story...

So, I graduated in Aug2000, and my short animated film ("O mama") has since been accepted to, and presented at many animation festivals all over the world. Following my graduation, I started working as a designer/ animator for an Israeli Post Production Studio, where I stayed for 3 years. I then, "rediscovered" Yuval (my 'old class mate'), and left Israel with him, in Sep2003, when he was transferred to Canada by his company.

We got married on Sep17th, 2005, in Toronto, and we are planning another wedding party in Israel this coming December.

Currently, we are both still in Canada working for the same Post Production company, I work as an Art Director/Producer, and Yuval is the head of our 3D animation department. The best thing about living in Canada is that I get to meet uwc friends on a regular basis. Since we moved here, I've been in touch with Ed W. (whose track I lost), Kyle F., Scott P ('94), Benny, Mike L., James W. (we spend many weekends at his cottage near Toronto), And Oscar O. ('94).

I feel very fortunate to have these "new-old" relationships in my life, and to get an opportunity to create some more at the reunion. As far as the future goes, I don't know where I'll be, or what I'll do. I am, however, positive that the UWC experience and people will continue to play a major role in my life.

**Fun Fact:** We still dance "The Freak", on weekends up at Jamie's cottage!



**Name:** Isa Benitez

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** 92 Black Birch Ct. Shelton, CT,  
06484. USA

**Email:** [isa.benitez@gmail.com](mailto:isa.benitez@gmail.com)

**Phone Number:** 203-402-0347



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After NM, I went on to McGill in Montreal, Canada to obtain a B. S. in chemistry. Tired of the bitter winter and ice storms, I decided to go to Florida to graduate school. Sure I chose the school for its excellent program and the quality of the research, but it was very nice to be in warm weather again. I got a Ph. D. in November of 2004; those 5 years and a half went very slowly! All this time, I continued to make friends from all over the world. I consider myself very lucky!

After a series of long interviews, and a few disappointments, I got a job with Unilever in Trumbull, CT. I work on Pond's creams for Asia but we are also known for Dove, Lipton, Slim Fast, etc. It has already been more than 6 months, but I feel like I just got here yesterday. I got a little house in Shelton, CT, just a few minutes from work and I've been busy making it a home. I hope to stay in the US permanently, but who knows. We all know how quickly life can change.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I played tennis against McEnroe last May. He was very nice and didn't try to beat me ☺ During the same event I also played with the Connecticut Hornets, a wheel chair team. What a nice group of people. It was very inspiring to meet them. They did not go so easy on me, what a workout I had that day!



**Name:** James Redmon

**Address:**

280 Farris Lane  
Smithville, TX 78957  
USA

**Email:**

jamesdredmon@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:**

(512) 237-3685  
(512) 736-2837 (cell)

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I attended university at the University of Texas where I received my Economics degree. While still in college I began land surveying and decided to make it my career. Seven years ago a friend introduced me to the most amazing woman in the world, and four years ago we got married. I have a yellow lab named Diamond, because I tied the engagement ring around his neck and gave them both to my wife. I am still not sure which gift she liked the most.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I can bong 3 beers at once!



**Name:** James Wisener

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** 117 King George St.  
Ottawa, ON K1K 1V2  
CANADA

**Email:** james.wisener@alcatel.com

**Phone Number:** 613-741-9584



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After UWC I moved to Ottawa, Canada’s capital, to attend Carleton University. I graduated 4 years later with a degree in Computer Systems Engineering. At that time I began working for a Canadian company called Newbridge Networks. A year later the company was sold to Alcatel, a very large French telecom company, where I am still working these days as a senior engineer.

By the time the reunion arrives I will be married to a fantastic woman, Vanessa. We live in a house in Ottawa with our dog Atley and two cats Darwin and Asha. There is always room in the house for visitors.

I still continue to sail a fair amount during the summer. Lots of weekends at the cottage where there is even more room for visitors.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



**One fun fact- something new you’ve learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

How to make Ping

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Take half can of Minute Maid Limeade frozen concentrate and put into your blender.</li> <li>2. Add ice to the top of blender</li> <li>3. Pour a healthy amount of your favourite Vodka.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Start blender on highest setting.</li> <li>5. Add water until the blender changes to a higher pitch and the contents change to a whiter colour.</li> <li>6. Serve with many friends wearing polyester.</li> </ol> |
|--|---|

**Name:** Jonathan Gallina

**Previous Name (if any change):** Same

**Address:** #103-1240 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Vancouver B.C.  
V6H 1 J3 Canada

**Email:** [jbg@telus.net](mailto:jbg@telus.net)

**Phone Number:** 604-732-4834



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After the UWC, I went to the University of Victoria to study Hispanic and Italian studies. After 1 year, the campus life was not exciting enough so I moved to Argentina in 1996 to meet up with Martin (Clutterbuck) and I taught English there for 2 years. I then decided it was time to get my lazy ass back to school, so I enrolled at Simon Fraser University and graduated with a degree in Communications in the fall of 2000.

Since then I've worked several less than interesting jobs, from cable TV sales, to kitchen work, to computer tech support.

I eventually landed a dream job with Electronic Arts 3 years ago and am now a producer (designer) for the FIFA game. It was a hard challenge as I began as software tester for the first 2 years and gradually moved my way up.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

I remember to this day grabbing a handful of freshly baked biscuits from the cafeteria and running off to Ivan's history class. Those were the days! How profound is that? ☺

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I've re-learned how to play soccer and I think I am pretty good at it! I am no Maradona however!

Exciting experience? Leaving from Argentina with an expired VISA and hoping not to be stopped at the airport. My VISA was for 1 year, and I stayed for 2. I booked a flight back to Canada knowing, with some inside information, that going through customs would be less expensive than a renewing my VISA for an additional year. So I took the chance, and luckily enough, they let me go! There was a lot of "I didn't know any better!" and "My flight leaves in 20 minutes!", and sure enough that worked out. :)





4 years of college in Connecticut, New York and Paris +  
1 year of working in New York +  
4 years of graduate school in Boston +  
1 year of working as an architectural nomad in New York, Boston, Guangzhou and Genova  
= 10 years of not talking to many of you, not seeing the smiles on many of your faces  
= can't wait to hug each of you.  
PS: I grow watermelon in my spare time.  
Justin/Chung Ping - czlee@wesleyan.edu

AHUWC Class of 1995

Ten Year Reunion



**Name:** Kaisu Luiro

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:**

Näyttelijäntie 14d C 33, 00400 Helsinki, Finland

**Email:** [kaisu.luiro@helsinki.fi](mailto:kaisu.luiro@helsinki.fi)

**Phone Number:** +358 40 7639939 /mobile  
+358 9 3211477 / home



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I returned to Finland after UWC and spent the first year with my dear old hobby, riding at the Equine College of Finland, trying to figure out where and what to study. After that I enrolled in the University of Helsinki Medical School and the MD/PhD program. I graduated from the medical school in 2003 and now I'm finishing my PhD in molecular medicine at the National Public Health Institute. It's been pretty hectic studying medicine and doing research at the same time but it has also been quite international and fun! I was an exchange student in Tokyo in 2001, and lately I have traveled some in Southern Africa and South East Asia. I got married to Jaakko Helve in August 2004. Next year we will be moving to Thailand to study tropical medicine at the Mahidol University. In the future I would be interested working in the field of international health care and also plan to do field work in developing countries.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

UWC has had a major impact in my life, and there are some vivid memories I will not ever forget...such as the New Mexico stars at night and the sunshine every day...Beni and I drinking Finnish beer that I smuggled into the campus at the castle steps...Giddi-up service for the troubled Las Vegas gang teens at the nearby horse stable...S&R operation during which we carried a dead man out of the woods in a thunderstorm... Coffee table discussions and hot debates at the patio...tortillas...Sunday Sundae ice cream...I am so looking forward to seeing you all!!!

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I have been doing Astanga yoga for some years and I have my own guru ;-)



AHUWC Class of 1995

Ten Year Reunion

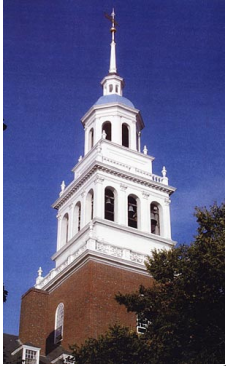
**Name:** Kasia Leon-Lubowicz  
**Previous Name:** Kasia Lubowicz  
**Address:** 59 Marlborough Court  
London, W8 6DF  
U.K.  
**Email:** lubowicz@post.harvard.edu  
**Phone Number:** +44(0)795.172.8825



*Boston... for college*

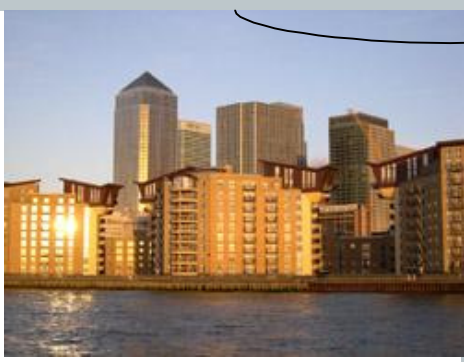
*New York... for work*

*In 2001, married a wonderful man*



*London... for work*

*Boston... for business*



*London again...*



*Unfortunately, I won't be able to make it to the reunion as my husband and I are expecting a baby at the end of August...  
I will miss you all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
With love,  
Kasia*



**Name:** Kathryn Shaffner  
**Previous Name (if any change):** Kathryn Holmgaard  
**Address:** 5316 Brookstone Lane  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
USA  
**Email:** kafryn99@yahoo.com  
**Phone Number:** home- (757) 200-4046, cell:  
(757) 289-5461



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After departing Montezuma in a tear-filled, snotty haze, I got to spend a little time in Mexico before going back to Martinsville. I went to William and Mary in Virginia for university where after one semester of physics abandoned all hope of medical school and switched my degree to history instead. Also in that time I did a semester exchange at McGill with Kyle and Benedicte and many other various UWCers, visited Cuba, spent a summer in Peru (and did the Inca Trail- fabulous), spent a summer in Seattle and did some other various traveling in my quest to be near UWC friends. After graduating, I decided not to grow up yet so I studied for a year in Barcelona and did some traveling around Spain. Soon after my return to Virginia, I met my husband, whom I married just about three years ago. He is a wonderful man (though he is Texan) who is an undersea warfare specialist in the Navy. I work in a Naval Museum as an education specialist (there are a lot of specialists in the military) so I get to work with kids which is nice. We have a dog and two cats and are foster parents to another homeless dog. I am almost done with my master's in International Relations (UWCers in IR?! No...) and I hope to become a foreign service officer after that. If that doesn't work out, I can always become a private investigator since I also spend a good bit of time honing my stalker skills as the class agent...

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

I can honestly say that UWC is one of the few things in my life that has an impact on my life almost everyday. My experience in Montezuma touched every aspect of my person. While I formed some great friendships in university, I truly feel like my UWC connections are lifelong and I thank all of you for that. I very much look forward to the reunion to strengthen old bonds and perhaps more importantly, form new ones.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:** Maybe it is my UWC-inspired optimism but I confirmed that often misfortune is fortune in disguise when I met my husband. About two months prior, I had gotten thrown from a horse and crushed two vertebrae in my spine. I was bedridden and terribly depressed and the day that I was allowed out of the back brace and allowed to go out, my friend convinced me to go out with her. We went to a party at a friend's house and that night I met my Christopher. Had I not broken my back, I probably would have already left Virginia and never met him. So even though it was a terrible two months, it worked out in the end!



Name: **Kyle Faas**

Previous Name (if any change): **Clueless**

Address: **311 Spadina Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M5T 2E6  
Canada**

Email: **kfaas@yahoo.com  
kylefaas@gmail.com**

Phone Number: **416.596.0812**



Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:

1995-1998	BSc (Physiology) at McGill University in Montreal, because I used to think I wanted to be straight
1998-1999	ESL teacher in Tokyo, Japan
1999-2002	BA (Hon English) at University of Toronto, because I used to think I enjoyed writing essays Full-time residential counselor with Special Needs populations Part-time counselor with Psychiatric patients
2002-2005	Full-time closed captioning editor in women's specialty television Freelance webcopy/content writer Part-time administrator with association of medical residents
2005	Freelance photographer and web writer

Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):

**When I went to New Mexico, I believed in things. When I came home, I believed in people. Now, I believe nothing without people.**



One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:

**When I was 27, I learned how to knit. When I was 29, I learned how to knit something people might be willing to wear.**

**When I was 26, I embarked upon what promises to be a lifelong addiction to dragonfruit.**



# Leventè Tòth & Matthias Keuck

Leventè Tòth

H-2096 ÜRÖM  
Kárókatona u. 7B  
Hungary

levito8@hotmail.com

0036 30 267 0213 (cell)

Matthias Keuck

Subbelrather Str. 302  
50825 Köln  
Germany

keuck@gmx.net

0049 (0)221 55500121

0049 (0)163 2927462 (cell)



## During the past ten years

Levi and I went into quite different directions of specification. Levi studying Law and working side-wise as a translator, me up my way in the biz. While Levi went

film through clapper-need to men-I finally got accept-

some Law firms, I earned my living as a set runner, driver, loader, electrician and gaffer (and even more positions with no tion). Levi went to Tuebingen, Germany, to brush up his German and I finally got accepted into the Academy of Media arts in Cologne to join their film class.

While Levi became an EU-Official as a lawyer linguist working in Luxembourg, I directed my first short movies. Recently Levi became an EU "never-to-be-fired-ever" employee, and he finished his postgraduate business studies, too -congratulations! Meanwhile - after finishing my school - I worked as an assis-

stant-director, wrote a shadow-script for a German sequel, laid out another script for a short film for the Fifa-World Cup next year in Germany, and am currently working as a cutter while writing on my first feature film-script.



through the last decade, Levi and I found ourselves tied closer to each other with every year passing. Together travelling back

## When looking back

in our minds and reliving all those incredible moments only a United World College can offer, has become vital for both of us. While Levi got married and now seriously begins to venture off into the grown up world, I decided to give it some more slack and instead try to transform into words some of these fantastic ideas and moments captured in my head. And yes, well, since there is no way around admitting to the fact that you all influenced and shaped us, we finally agreed that we might as well like you...





# If you consider

visiting either Levi or me, let me advise you, just don't: We are about the dullest people to visit in the entire universe. We never drink, the only food eatable for us is veggies and tofu and all the other healthy stuff. We never laugh. We get up with sunrise, work 18 hours a day and do sports for two. Besides, we just never liked

guests: They just eat up all the food, mess up your schedule, and are quite simple a pain in the a\*\*.

Apart from that we are lovely people, and we appreciate pen friends quite a lot. So please, don't hesitate to write lengthy letters and you'll be receiving even more lengthy ones back. Especially Levi can't get enough of them I can tell you!

# Anyway,

I believe you are getting as tired of reading this text as I am getting writing it, so I believe I'll just stop here. I think,

you all got the general idea concerning Levi and me, and our views on things.

# Our apology

to all of you, to which we won't be able to speak to in as much depth as we would like to at the reunion; we'll carry you in our hearts, and, if fate wants, there will be a time still. To all the rest of you: please talk back to us and forgive us not remembering every name, we're not computers...

Pura Vida

*M. Kueck*  
*hugos TO*

# P.s: You most likely

heard of Levi and me getting married last year through the **Kaleidoscope**. So here now is the correct wedding-picture, as it got accidentally switched with a different one. - ...How did I ever allow him to get dressed up like this?

AHUWC Class of 1995



Ten Year Reunion



**Name:** Liza Thiel

**Previous Name (if any change):** Elizabeth Carroll

**Address:** 2528 N. Dousman St., Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Email:** ecarroll@mcw.edu

**Phone Number:** (414) 264-1691

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I graduated from the University of Minnesota, worked for a year at a clinic in Milwaukee's Hispanic community and then attended the Medical College of Wisconsin. One week after our 2004 graduation, I married Brad Thiel, who I met in medical school. He's doing a residency in Psychiatry while I do mine in Pediatrics. We matched into residencies in Milwaukee, which allows us to remain close to family.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**







Name: Luis Castellanos

Previous Name (if any change):

Address: 5 de mayo # 24, Suite PH-D,  
San Lucas, Tlalnepantla, Edo. Mex. 54055  
MEXICO

Email: luis\_castel@yahoo.com

Phone Number: +5255 54532570



Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:

**"I live with two beautiful girls at home: my wife and my one year old baby girl".**

Right after school I spent some time traveling. (Many thanks to those of you and your wonderful families who helped Carlos and I during our trip to Europe.)

Some years later I got a BA on International Relations, a minor specialty on international business, completed additional studies in the UK on the European Union and I ended up in the software industry... makes a lot of sense, right??

Any way, I have been in this High-Tec industry for over 5 years now. I used to run the LATAM operations for a Houston-based security software company named BindView Corp. until 4 months ago, when I moved to my current position with Novell Inc. There has been a lot of traveling around LATAM and US as a result of my job.

Got married about 3 years ago and have an amazingly beautiful baby girl that looks just like her father ... ;)





**Name:** Mariana Dias Batista

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** Rua Hilário Magro Junior 431  
05505-020  
São Paulo-SP  
Brazil

**Email:** mariana\_db@uol.com.br

**Phone Number:** (55-11) 3812-4893  
(55-11) 99316059



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After UWC I got back to Brazil, did 6 years of Medical School, and another 4 years of residency in Dermatology, which pretty much consumed most of my time. As of February this year I've finished with school, and now I've set up an office in Sao Paulo. Did lots of traveling these 10 years, now I know a lot more about Brazil if anyone wants to come and visit. Been around Latin America a lot too, and got all the way to India some years ago, which was wonderful. I'm living with my boyfriend Manuel, who is a pediatrician and musician.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

Although I've been far away all these years I really miss everyone from UWC. I wish wasn't so hard to see you guys! I guess the UWC made me into a lonelier person, as it's always been hard to fit in after leaving the school, but it made me want to be different, and made me see it's often better not to fit in. Thank you for these wonderful 2 years.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

The most exciting experience these last few years was to go to the Amazon to work with the Indians. I stayed in a completely isolated tribe, where they spoke little Portuguese, and found out that my UWC experience was very useful, as I didn't feel so out of place with all the cultural differences.



**Name:** Marie Vanloqueren - Bourgeois  
**Previous Name (if any change):** Marie Bourgeois

**Address:** Chemin de la Caracole 8  
5000 Namur  
Belgium

**Email:** marie.bourgeois@advalvas.be

**Phone Number:** +32 (0)81 22 17 43



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Well the most important event is that I am pregnant: I will be giving birth around the time of the reunion!

After journeys to India, Nepal, Vietnam and Latin-America, I came to the conclusion that I needed to be in touch with people living in poverty right next to me. With my husband Tanguy we are active in a local movement that gathers the poorest together in a struggle with others against what produces misery. We want to question society and the exclusion it produces. (For those who are curious: [www.mouvement-lst.org](http://www.mouvement-lst.org)).

After over 4 years of research at the social geography department of Leuven, I am now working for a Rural Foundation in Namur. I am essentially in charge of the follow-up of European programmes concerning rural development in Wallonia (the French speaking part of Belgium).

For the rest, I enjoy looking at life from the perspective of a bicycle, living life at my own pace.



**Name:** Marija Chouinard  
**Previous Name (if any change):** Marija Dokmanovic  
**Address:** 590 Fort Washington Av Apt 6D  
 New York City, NY 10033  
**Email:** md506@columbia.edu  
**Phone Number:** 212-851-5309



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After graduating from Mount Holyoke, I spent some time in Chicago and then moved to New York City, where I've been living since '99. I completed my MS, MPhil and PhD at Columbia, and am currently working full-time in diabetes and obesity research. I got married two years ago, and have been living happily ever after with my husband in NYC...We absolutely love New York, but every once in a while we try to escape to our favorite place in the world—Martha's Vineyard. Every once in a while, we dream about opening a restaurant there.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**





I volunteer a couple of times a week as a mentor for talented, academically accelerated children from Harlem (shown above). I find this experience the greatest and the most rewarding.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

The day of my wedding, as I was standing in front of the Cathedral all dressed up in white, ready to walk in, face covered by veil, bouquet in one hand, Dad's arm in another, a guy walking by asked me if I was the bride. No, I just dress like this for fun every once in a while...



**Name:** Martijn Muijs

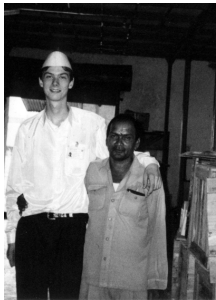
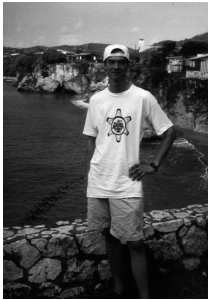
**Previous Name (if any change):** -

**Address:** Leistraat 12 bis  
3572 RE Utrecht  
The Netherlands

**Email:** martijn@iname.com

**Phone Number:** +31 6 270 160 74

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**



Wow! It has been a very short ten years. I remember so well the day that I was told that I passed my IB's. Against all expectations, I might say. And, though it sounds a bit awkward: I was soooo disappointed for having passed! I now had to choose some study instead of partying for another year. In lack of a sensible plan I started studying Electronics en Data communication. I soon found out that it wasn't my thing at all, but it took me about a year-and-a-half to get my act together and leave for a six months of work in India. In fact, I extended that stay with a few months, doing voluntary work as a teacher while living in a slum. It was greatest time of all. Back to The Netherlands, back to college, back to nighttime party and daytime boredom: brilliant recipe for growing urges of getting away again. I planned to work on Antarctica for 8 months in the blistering cold, but ended up in the Caribbean on the isle of Curacao. After nine months there I went back to The Netherlands once more to finish my studies. In the mean time I decided I wanted a degree in Business Science and at the end of 2000 I finished both studies. Than came work. I started to work for IT department of the Royal Dutch Telecom, KPN. I despised my job, but didn't know that at that moment. After 2 years I decided to take a break and I went to Italy (to the isle of Sardinia) to work there as a sailing instructor. I had a really good time there, but eventually went back home with genuine intentions to permanently quit my job at KPN. I did in fact quit the job, but was hired again by KPN in the same week by a different department. After that, I worked for Philips for some time and the past year and a half I have been working for the Police and Justice departments in The Netherlands. Now, ten years after leaving Montezuma, I have taken six months leave to make myself useful in South America. After the reunion, I will travel to Bolivia, Peru en Ecuador to see some of those magnificent countries and to do loads of voluntary work.

**It's better to reach for the stars and miss them  
than to aim for the gutter and hit it !**



**Name:** Emilio Huisman

**Previous Name (if any change):** Martin Clutterbuck

**Address:** 1950 South Ocean Drive. Apt 5K  
Hallandale, FL 33009  
USA

**Email:** emiliohuisman@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** 1 305 778 5401

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

year 1 – cried a lot, because I missed school, friends and Jorida, did some traveling, went down to Argentina looking for some money to come back to the US for college, but ended staying in Argentina.

Year 2 – cried a bit more, until Jonathan Gallina came to the rescue, started studying Political Science in University of Buenos Aires, became UWC Argentina’s network contact, got an argentine girlfriend for 8 months, got a job.

Year 3 – got a real job, working on international trade, promoting exports of agri-products from Argentina to the world, changed girlfriends. Still at UWC Argentina. This time for about 1 year.

Year 4 – same job, same university, UWC Argentina...living real life.

Year 5 – same job, same university, Jonathan left, I moved out to a house I bought in Buenos Aires, nice old, near the cementery. UWC Argentina Changed the girlfriend for a boyfriend.

Year 6 – changed jobs, same shit different office, same university, UWC Argentina, no more boyfriend. Some more tears. I turned vegetarian. Subina came for a 6 month stay.

Year 7 – my cousins from Patagonia moved into my house. I started being happy again. I finished university, finished paying mortgage for the house, so I Own it now. I tried marihuana for the first time, I cant stop trying now. Changed jobs and countries. I moved to Turkey. There I started smoking tobacco. Left the house to my cousins who live there now. Started working as a sheepskin importer, from Argentina into Turkey. Lived in Istanbul in a pretty empty apt by the Marmara sea. Single

Year 8 – new war in Iraq, closed my business in Turkey, came back to Argentina. Went back to Agri Exports. But this time my job was to travel around. And with business trips, in a funky restaurant in NYC I got drunk for the first time. Now I get drunk often. I became UWC Argentina Vice President. Very single

Year 9 – back in my house in Buenos Aires, now the house is an open house, it is full of people I Know and people I don’t know all the time. It turned into a hippy place. Got to travel around all over Europe and Latin America for work. Promoting food items, supermarket packed goods. Very single and happy about it

Year 10 - quit UWC Argentina, (needed some rest after 10 years), quit my job. Moved to Miami. Working now for a Haitian Company, still working on international trade, being Haiti my main market. Going to the 10year reunion. Very single. And having second thoughts if I Want to remain as single.

Reflections on UWC... I liked it, and I enjoyed it, I am thankful to it. But I don’t believe it serves its purpose, its ideal goals, and real life outcomes. are too far apart.



**Name:** Matt Goyer

**Address:** 10932 W. 100<sup>th</sup> Terrace  
Overland Park, KS 66214

**Email:** [matt@intouchsol.com](mailto:matt@intouchsol.com)

**Phone Number:** 913-859-0195



### **Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After leaving the UWC I returned to Kansas City and graduated from high school. My return to high school caused rampant rumors throughout the school. My favorite is that I was kicked out of the UWC for heroin abuse...that was a funny one.

In fall 1994 I matriculated at Truman State University, a small liberal arts school located in Missouri. While there I earned a BA in History and started down an education path toward a museum career. After graduating in 1998, I matriculated at the Cooperstown Graduate Program in upstate New York to work on a Master's degree in Museum Studies. Instead of completing the program, I became restless and moved back to the Kansas City. Now I'm plodding slowly through an MBA through University of Missouri Kansas City with a target finish date of Spring 2007. Shortly after moving back I met my wife Liz (who I met via an unhealthy addiction to playing disc golf). We were married February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2001. We have two children, a rambunctious 4-year-old named Parker and a baby girl named Ava that was born May 19, 2005.

Instead of a museum career, I have worked at a place named Intouch Solutions for the past five years. Intouch is a software development company that specializes in customized software solutions for big pharma. My expertise is working with software that is helping bring the conduct of clinical trials into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. An interesting fact about our company is that though we are located in the middle of the US, we are truly global in reach. Every day I work with associates in Turkey, Israel, Bulgaria and India. It's truly amazing how the Internet has revolutionized communication.

### **Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

I appreciate the global perspective the UWC imprinted on my view of the world. If only the world's political leaders would get together on a patio for a smoke past midnight, all the world's problems wouldn't appear so difficult.

### **One fun fact:**

My son was born at 2 pm in the afternoon on 2.1.01. My wife and I learned that my son existed at 6 am on 2.1.01. We had no idea she was pregnant, let alone going into labor when we arrived at the hospital that morning. The doctor in the emergency room told us that Liz was maybe 4 or 5 months pregnant, but not to worry. When we went up to the sonogram room, the tech informed us that Liz was 8 months pregnant and that the "cramps" she had been having for the past 3 days were labor pains (by the way, Liz is a bartender and she worked right up to the morning we went to the hospital).

Keep in mind, no one in either of our families knew that Liz was pregnant. At 9 am in the morning both of us got on the phone to call our parents to say "uh, how do you feel about becoming grandparents today?" The day my son was born was one of the most eventful, funny and best days of my life.





**Name:** Mel Rader

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:**

209 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NW, Unit 104

Portland, OR. 97210

**Email:** melvin.rader@fulbrightweb.org

**Phone Number:**

503-449-1037

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Since UWC, I have received three academic degrees, traveled around the world, gotten married, and worked for a variety of non-profits.

I attended Oberlin College from '95 to '99, and majored in Economics with minors in East Asian Studies and Physics. In my sophomore year, I traveled to England, Turkey, India, Thailand, Mexico, and Cuba, to study environmental issues. In my junior year, I met my future wife.

After Oberlin, I built a geodesic dome house on an island off the coast of Washington State, then I moved to Boston and did some grant proposal writing and media relations for non-profits. Then I got two master's degrees at Tufts University in Water Resources Engineering, and in Food and Nutrition Policy. I wrote my thesis about how farmers in West Africa could use climate forecasts to make agricultural decisions.

In July of 2003, I got married at a nature reserve in Boston. My wife was a medical student at Harvard where she got into intense debates with Yassine about feminism and politics.

In 2003-04, I spent a year in Australia on a Fulbright Fellowship doing research at the University of Sydney, and spending my extra time on the beach. Just recently, I moved to Portland, OR and I am working as the development director (i.e. fund-raiser) at an environmental non-profit. Within the next five year, I want to run for the Oregon state Legislature and pass laws that make Oregon more beautiful.



My wife and I during our wedding



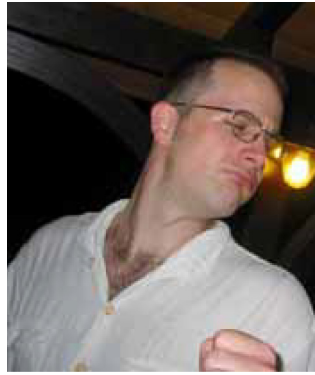
Me on a sailboat in Australia

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:** I learned how to scuba dive on the Australian Great Barrier Reef

**Name:** Mike Leach

**Address:** um. Good question. I'm in between places and life stages. My parent's address is 241, 11<sup>th</sup> Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 0E5, Canada. But don't let that fool you into thinking that I still live with my parents...

**Email:** [mike.leach@excite.com](mailto:mike.leach@excite.com)



### Professional Synopsis:

Gender: Male

Star Sign: Scorpio

Education: UWC, BA (History and Political Science – University of Toronto), MA (Russian and East European Studies – University of Toronto). About to start LLB at the University of Ottawa

Last Job Worth Mentioning: Assistant Trainer and project coordinator at a Hungarian capacity building NGO in Budapest called the Civil Society Development Foundation Hungary.

Nie mam przyjaciół\_ki, nemam \_ene, nu am copili, nincis pénzem

### Unprofessional Synopsis

A person from my parent's generation, when money was the generally accepted currency of success, would probably wonder what the hell I have been doing with myself this past decade because I am returning to Montezuma with exactly the same amount of cash in my pocket as when I left, i.e. zero, nada, squat. When I start school again in September, I will have even less than that. But, since we live in a more enlightened age, I can use other indicators to reflect on my time. How about Happiness? Like money, I've traversed HappyLand's peaks and valleys and I am coming back here as I left in 1995 – content, satisfied, not unhappy, but still looking for that great all-meaningful joy that always seems to be just around the corner. Family? Lost a grandmother and an uncle, but also welcomed two brothers-in-law and two new nephews into it (one just a few weeks ago!) Love? err, next category, please. Health? Well, the ol' lungs took a beating for a while there, but other than that, so far so good (the doctors among us might disagree however). Knowledge? Experience? A-ha, here I can come to the table with a few chips to throw down.

These past 10 years have pulled me across an ocean and over mountains, through cities and villages, farms and forests. In sum, I spent my time:



Learning, planting, teaching, building,  
Painting, digging, writing, pruning  
Typing, filing, training, reviewing,  
Caressing, loving, punishing, screwing,  
Picking up dogshit, hauling, cleaning,  
Drinking, smoking, swallowing, eating,  
Processing, playing, acting, moving,  
Care-giving, stare-giving, winning, losing,  
Trying, tasting, choosing, rejecting,  
Serving, selecting, sampling, accepting,  
Scratching, itching, hurting, healing,  
Helping, harvesting, struggling with feelings,  
Time n' money wasting, saving, consuming,  
And, (to finish it off) even vacuuming bubble gum off the sidewalk

It's been busy





**Name:** Mohammed Abuzaid  
**Address:** 667 Main St. Apt 21  
Woburn, MA 01801

**Email:** Mabuzaid98@yahoo.com  
**Phone Number:** 781-938-1172

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I spent the first three years after graduation in Texas at Austin College. After finishing college I moved to the Boston area in summer 98 to work as a software engineer. I am still working at the same company since then. I managed to get a masters degree in Software Engineering while I was working. Being in Boston allowed me to stay in touch with lots of UWC friends and to meet new ones. I love this town! The highlight of it all came when I got married late last year to my wife Majd. She is from Jordan too.

**Whatever you want:**



**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

Somehow I still find time to play soccer and to workout. But when I thought I got old and lost it all, I managed to surprise myself by running a mile in less than 6 minutes. I tried to do it in the past, but it never worked out!



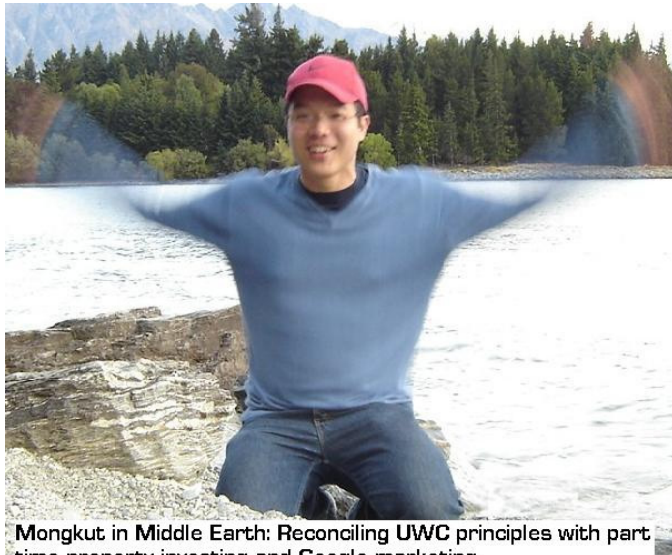
**Name:** Mongkut (A.K.A Max) Sim

**Address:** 30 Howell Avenue, Lane Cove, NSW 2066, Australia

**Email:** [minimoghul@gmail.com](mailto:minimoghul@gmail.com), [maxsim@iprimus.com.au](mailto:maxsim@iprimus.com.au)

**Phone Number:** Landline: +612 94271336, Cell Phone: 0425309370

### Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:



Mongkut in Middle Earth: Reconciling UWC principles with part time property investing and Google marketing.

After UWC – studied Architecture and Design Science combined with Business Degree in Marketing. Met a wonderful girl called Eunjin.

NEXT: Got a job with Accenture during the Dot-Com boom in the eCommerce Development Centre. Exciting times! Worked briefly in Chicago, (even packed in a short stint in Tokyo). Turned down opportunities in Prague, Berlin (thinking they would still be around in 6 months) and was banished to Adelaide. NEXT: The Dot-Com bubble burst, taking the whole of the consulting world with it! NEXT: Decided to give consulting a break, went into sales and account management, started residential property re-development in the vicinity of Middle-Earth. (I am still waiting on the prognosis, so it is a touchy subject, don't ask me yet) NEXT: Met up with the intrepid Melvin Rader and his wife Cat! We did a

lot of sailing and kayaking in Sydney Harbour. Did a local radio show with Cat. Mel taught me about the Boston New Age Organic Hippie movement. At a recent Ultimate Frisbee competition in Canberra, saw that age had not wearied Melvin's Canine instincts. NEXT: Years ago started writing/illustrating my book on Chinese characters - almost finished - that will be published shortly (with or without a traditional publisher)! NEXT: Now working for Hitwise, an Australian company that is quickly bringing Australian technology to the rest of the world (Don't laugh, I am being serious, we are world leaders in this!). We monitor 25 million people world-wide through ISPs and through that we see how ordinary citizens interact with 500,000 websites worldwide. We then sell the trends we see as competitive intelligence. NEXT: Still involved in raising funds, selecting students for UWC as treasurer of the UWC Australia Trust. NEXT: In order to fund my fledgling residential property development interests, I run web businesses selling everything from diamonds to iPods online, focusing on honing my Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) and Search Engine Marketing (SEM) skills and getting to the top of Google. NEXT: A look into the future:

1. Option 1: Become a full time Google guru and live on a tropical island selling anything from diamonds to iPods online.
2. Option 2: Learn how to paint and mow to focus full time on residential property development.
3. Option 3: Work for a new technology company like Google in China and collaborate on the next generation of search engine marketing.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion and finding out what I have been missing out on by not being in Boston for 10 years!



**Name:** MuRan Heo

**Address:** 201-1206 SsangYong APT.  
Karak2dong, Songpa-gu  
Seoul, Korea

**Email:** muranh@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** 82-11-9041-3339



**The last 10 years:**

'95 - '98 NYC, U.S.A New York University, Music Technology

'99 - '05 Seoul, Korea Audio Engineer

**What makes me happy and miserable these days :** my music, my band

<http://www.gloomyband.com>

*Here lies music that linger slow and steady, dripping with nostalgia and melancholy.  
Honest in its anger and yearning for life.*

*Music that speaks what lurks in the sub-stream of our thoughts.*





**Name:** *Nok Siriphonlai*

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:**

*175 Bryant Ave. Unit 1N  
White Plains, NY 10605*

**Email:** *usiripho@hotmail.com*

**Phone Number:**

*Home: 914-328-7591  
Cell: 914-993-2056*

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

*After AHUWC, I went to Manhattan College for a degree in Chemical Engineering. While I was there, I decided to join the seamless program where you get BS and MS in 5 years. I graduated in 1999 for my BS and in 2000 for my MS.*

*Since college, I have been working for HDR, an Architecture and Engineering consulting firm in White Plains, NY. I have also been living in White Plains, in a co-op that I bought about three years ago.*

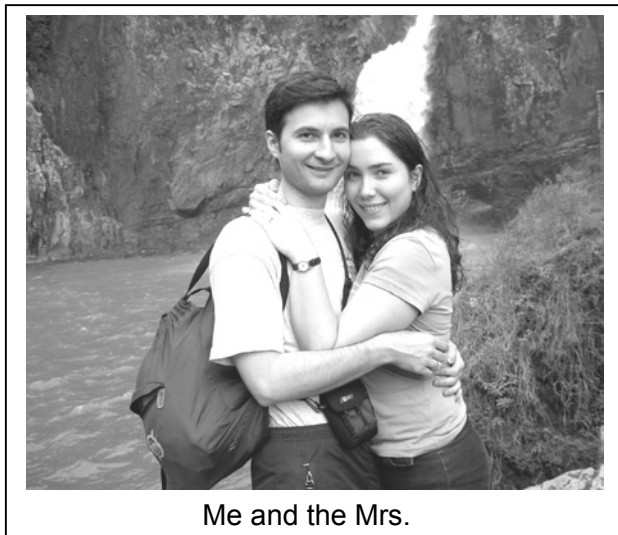
**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

*In the past few years, I have run three marathons and am training for one in October.*



Name: Philip Nikolov  
 Address: 175 Prospect  
**Name:** Philip Nikolov  
**Address:** 175 Prospect Park SW, Apt 4C  
 Brooklyn, NY 11218, USA  
**Email:** [philip@alumni.princeton.edu](mailto:philip@alumni.princeton.edu)  
**Phone Number:** 718-851-1197

Right after graduation, I experienced many sad goodbyes. I was in one of the last batches of students to leave campus, and we saw off almost everyone else. The pain of leaving and the angst of separation were I think a great sign that our experience had been worthwhile. UWC helped us create strong inter-personal bonds and establish lifelong guiding principles.



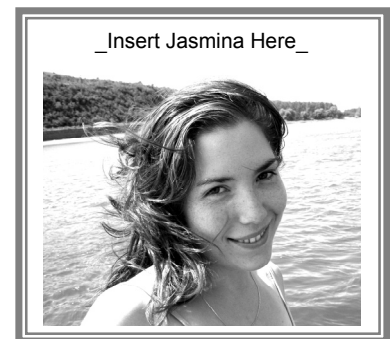
Me and the Mrs.

I spent the next four years at Princeton, which is an incredible place in its own right. It can be snobby, and intellectual, and artistic, depending on which crowd you pick. I was able to sample all these crowds. For me, the hallmark of great educational institutions such as UWC and Princeton is their encouragement of interaction among diverse groups of people, ideologies, and mindsets.

After graduating with a Computer Science degree I

moved to the melting pot of New York City. Since then, I have been working in information technology at Goldman Sachs. I am proud that my software frees people from doing “monkey work” and instead leaves them focused on real problems that require creative thinking.

On Thanksgiving Day 2003, Philip Nikolov and Jasmina Kwater got married, and thus a new chapter began. Jasmina is bright, enthusiastic, and determined to help others - a perfect fit for the extended “UWC family”. You are welcome to stay with us if you pass by New York City. We have a few fun stories to share, but they are either too long or too embarrassing to print on this page.



**Name:** Pontus Ohrstedt  
**Address:** 54 Cavell Street, Flat 1, E12 HP London  
**Email:** [pontus.ohrstedt@undp.org](mailto:pontus.ohrstedt@undp.org)  
**Phone Number:** +44 – (0)207-7907060

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

The year after graduating from UWC I spent working as photographer assistance in Stockholm and then traveling in Mexico. I guess this was my first real taste of Latin America, which I haven't been able to get rid of since. I finally decided not to study photography, but instead did my undergraduate course in Law and Economics at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) in London. During my second year in London I met Natascha, my wife, and when I finally graduated in 1999 I decided to move to Colombia, where she's from. I have spent some really amazing six years in this country of magical realism. Actually, way back in my youth, when I read Gabos "100 years of solitude" for the first time, I though the guy was really creative and innovative. Now I realize that all he did was to write an honest documentary of



everyday Colombian life. I got married to Natascha in 2003, with weddings both in Bogota and Stockholm. Needless to say, these two days were the happiest of my life (... at least so far as we haven't had any kids yet). For the last four years in Colombia, I have worked with the UN, first with the UNHCR (the High Commission for Refugees) and later with UNDP (the Development Programme). I have worked primarily on conflict prevention, recovery and peace building issues which I find a fascinating area. While most of the time I have been stationed in Bogota, I have always traveled a lot and carried out loads of field work. Now I am

in process of leaving Colombia to go back to London, where Natascha has got a job at the UWC International Office and I will start a Masters course at the LSE. I am excited about going back to Europe and hope to see more of all of you friends. If any of you ever pass through London, "mi casa es su casa!"

Since we met last I've become a really hot Salsa dancer! – Not bad for a Swede born without rhythm?!? I have also lost my Swedish innocence... and now drive like a Colombian.

Thanks to you guys, and I really mean it, the two years in New Mexico really opened my life to many ideas and opportunities. It goes without saying, that I would never have ended up where I am without the UWC experience – Thank You All!





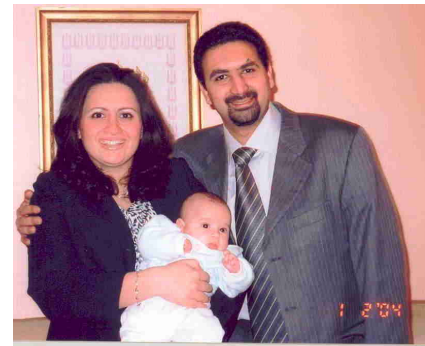


**Name:** Rafik Hafez

**Address:** P.O. Box 26567  
Safat 13123  
Kuwait

**Email:** [raffy\\_the\\_camel@yahoo.com](mailto:raffy_the_camel@yahoo.com),  
[rhafez@sultan-center.com](mailto:rhafez@sultan-center.com)

**Phone Number:** (965)9815075



### **Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

First of all, I would like to apologize for being so out of touch in the past years. Trust that it was never because I forgot about my UWC years, but just that I was never a good writer and I hate emails. Anyway, for those who can still tolerate me here is the summary for the past 10 years of my life (and for those who hate me, remember that UWC was all about tolerance ☺ ). After graduation, I went back home and started studying Business Administration in a University in my home town Alexandria. I had a fellow UWCian from the Li Po Chun UWC in Hong Kong who started with me and helped me keep UWC traditions (specifically partying). Also, Moutaz, (Class of 96) joined us in the same college in the following year. During my college years I was involved in many extracurricular activities, as I just wanted to keep part of the UWC experience alive. Also, during the college years I was introduced to a Jordanian girl who heard about UWC as she attended the summer camp in Cyprus and before we knew it we fell in love and got married one year after graduation. Alison Quinn (Class of 96) attended our wedding. We now have a 20 month old son who is our pride and joy. As for my professional life, I worked with my dad in the family business during my college years and for 3 years after graduation. Then I joined Citibank Egypt in 2002 and stayed there for 2 years. During this time I was working on the CFA designation with my wife as she is in the finance field as well. Currently, we relocated in Kuwait where I am working as a Senior Financial Analyst in a Kuwaiti conglomerate. I was planning on attending the reunion this year with my family but unfortunately things did not go as planned. I am thinking of attending next year's reunion as at least there would be familiar faces and hopefully I would meet who ever I can from my class outside the reunion. Definitely I would be in touch more often from now on.

There has not been a single day in the last 10 years where I have not thought about UWC. I keep remembering the nights in the patios and day rooms and the discussions ranging from music to politics to life in over 70 countries. I remember the line in the cafeteria and even where most people used to sit. And of course I remember the parties and Aaron who is the best DJ. Howling in full moon nights and the sight of Phil coming out of the balcony to speak to the students who woke him up in the middle of the night is an image that always makes me smile. Bridge nights at the café, the campus store, world affairs, expeditions, SAR missions, so many things and none forgotten. Most importantly, the people and the environment is what I miss the most. Having so many special individuals from so many countries in the same place and in such open settings is something that cannot be described by words and it is what makes our days in UWC an unequalled experience. Even the stress, the frustrations and the depressions are things I do not want to change or forget about as I was lucky enough to have people pulling me through them all and to me that was something to cherish. Thank you all for making my stay at UWC the best thing that happened to me (my wife won't like that but I would survive it). This came out much mushier than I had intended, apologies for all the machos reading it and just in case you are wondering I am not tearing right now.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:** *One of the many joys of parenthood: I learned how to change a diaper in less than 30 seconds!*



**Name:** Sandhya Subramanyam

**Current Address:**

Apt 1002, 368 Henan Nan Lu,  
Shanghai, Huang Pu District  
People's Republic of China

**Permanent Address:**

12, 1st Avenue,  
Harrington Road,  
Madras 600031  
India

**Email:**

[Sandhya.Subramanyam@capgemini.com](mailto:Sandhya.Subramanyam@capgemini.com)  
[sandhyas@hotmail.com](mailto:sandhyas@hotmail.com)

**Phone Number:**

China  
Home: +0086 21 6334 0495  
Mobile: +0086 1350 168 6597

India  
Home: +91-44-28362524

U.S:  
1-216-401-4896

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

10 years! My goodness – so much has happened! Here are some highlights:

- After graduating from UWC, obtained a manufacturing engineering degree from Madras, India, a Master's in Business from Boston, and work as a Healthcare Management Consultant in the U.S & Asia.
- Married Ananth Narayanan, someone I actually went to school with in Madras, for a year before I left for the UWC (but love blossomed a whole lot later!) in July 2002.
- We're the proud parents of a baby girl - Nayantara (*Meaning: Stars in her Eyes*), born June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005
- We're currently living in Shanghai, China and will be here until Oct 31, 2005 (Visitors are very welcome ☺. The experience is simply amazing – China has GOT to be SEEN to be believed...it is everything the magazines say it is – and more!)
- After our stint in China, we are planning on moving to Chicago for 3 years before we head back to India for good.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**



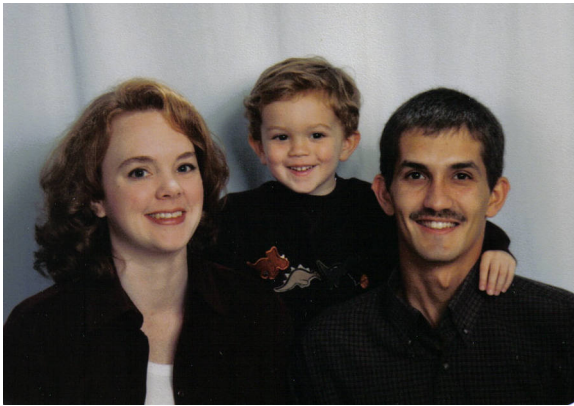


**Name:** Sarah Sellers Mayle  
**Previous Name (if any change):** Sarah Sellers  
**Address:** 3124 Blue Moon Trail  
Burlington, NC 27217  
**Email:** csmayle@earthlink.net  
**Phone Number:** 336/578-7830

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

I went to Duke and graduated with a B.A. in music. Met my husband, Corey, at Duke; we were married August 22, 1998. We have been blessed with our son, John, who was born in August 2001. In 2003, we built a house in the country, and we love the quiet. I am currently working towards a Masters in Education and will begin teaching elementary school in Fall 2007.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



Sarah, John, & Corey Mayle, Dec. 2004

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I have become an expert pitcher – Johnny is a natural at baseball, so we spend a lot of time having batting practice in our yard.



John and me, Easter 2005

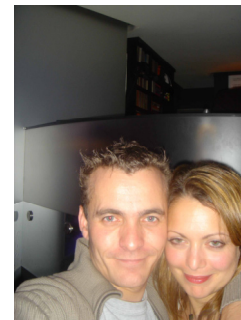
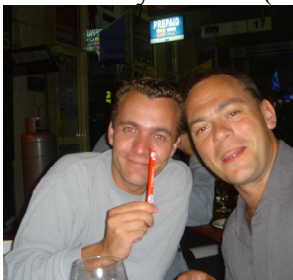
**Name:** Soren Nielsen  
**Previous Name (if any change):** Sorenzo  
**Address:** Herbert Smith, 23/F Gloucester Tower,  
11 Pedder Street, Hong Kong  
**Email:** [Soren.Nielsen@herbertsmith.com](mailto:Soren.Nielsen@herbertsmith.com)  
**Phone Number:** +852 9180 2262



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

After UWC I headed to SOAS, University of London (mini-UWC according to Gina Neff) to do my bachelor and master of laws. Then took a year off to spend time in Copenhagen and travel the world. I then reluctantly went back to the UK to finish off law school in Oxford followed by another year off where I travelled some more and worked for a Danish law firm. Feeling that I couldn't put it off much longer, I started my training contract with a UK law firm in 2002 which took me all over the place including Hong Kong. Fell in love with the city and was disappointed to return to London after six months there. Put in almost a year in London decommissioning a bunch of nuclear power plants across the UK before being rewarded with a secondment back to Hong Kong which is where I am now and intend to stay for a while. I specialize in Human Rights law – well not really – Oil and Gas law actually. Do my bit to promote the more environmentally friendly forms of energy! Okay – I sold out!

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**



**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:** All good livers have bad ones – still!



**Name** – Subina Shrestha

**Address** – P.O. Box 19, Lalitpur, Nepal

**Phone** – 977-1-4370308,

977-1-4272699, 977-9851043676 (cell)

**Email** – [subinas306@yahoo.com](mailto:subinas306@yahoo.com)



Altin, Sandhya, Subina, Sandhya's baby Nayantara

### **What you've been doing the last 10 years –**

The past ten years have been rather hazy – every line that describes it sounds either too mundane or too cliché. For one, the ten years have been fast forward journeys towards a more mature me but then many people might think that I have not achieved that. These have been solid ten years of confusion! For a year, I had to get over UWC and I was working in a radio station. Three years that followed took me to Mumbai, in India, where finished school. Then there was a year in Nepal where I came to know what an obnoxious person I was as I worked in a daily paper. Half a year in Buenos Aires with Martin taught me lessons of patience (Martin...)... and the past four years, making films has taken me through a maze of cultures, traditions and people. These years have been most gratifying and the most challenging years (but then one tends to think of each chapter as the same thing). In all these paths, meeting UWCers has always been most wonderful...

### **Any reminiscing on the UWC or other things**

The first word Mu Ran shared with me – BITCH

Arlene's wedding and the sudden thought or realization about how we essentially never change... and meeting a group in NYC and wondering how easy it is to revert into teenage habits

Wanting to kill Martin in many occasions

Altin 'having a medical condition' that prevents him from going to work on time

Running into Carolyn Hunt and Gulia

Meeting Sandhya in Madras...

### **One fun fact or funny story about what you've been up to:**

In Tibet, a two and half year old kid, an amazing little boy came up to me and candidly said, "Aunty Subina, lets' do something new. Let's get into bed naked". That was the best come on line ever



**Name:** Victoria (Tor) Ransom

**Previous Name (if any change):**

**Address:** Scotts Ferry, RD1, Bulls, New Zealand

**Email:** victoria\_ransom@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** +646 322 1699



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Typically for me, I seem to have moved around a lot: I've lived in five different countries since I graduated. My first four years after Armand Hammer were spent at Macalester College in St Paul where I studied with Ivan, Vicky, Anthony, Anamaria, Chad and numerous students from other UWCs. During this time I also spent 8 months studying and working in Brazil where I lived in a favela and worked with street children - an amazing experience! After graduating from college I spent six months working in London and then I moved to New York to work for Morgan Stanley. After two years in the Corporate World I had had enough and I left my job to start my own company - an adventure travel company specializing in instruction-based vacations ([www.accesstrips.com](http://www.accesstrips.com)). We currently offer mountain biking, surfing, skiing, snowboarding, kayaking and climbing trips, but more trips are on the way. I have spent the last three years living for part of the year in New Zealand and the other part in Switzerland (my partner is Swiss) and also spending a good deal of time traveling in search of new trip destinations. Very exciting and stimulating, but also quite exhausting and challenging! I'm about to embark on my next move - to Palo Alto in California, so if anyone is visiting Silicon Valley, they are welcome to stay with me!

**(Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

What can I say? It was the most wonderful time. I feel so lucky to have attended a UWC and to have spent two years with such interesting people and in such a spectacular setting. I wouldn't trade in this experience for anything.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

Hmmm... I've had some pretty memorable experiences while traveling over the last ten years but I still think my most exciting trip was the one I took immediately after graduating from the UWC when I spent five weeks living in a very remote village in the Amazon (7 days canoe journey from the nearest town). It was an incredible (although not always easy) experience and I feel very lucky to have spent time in such an 'untouched' part of the world.



**Name:** VIET LE  
**Email:** [vietqle@hotmail.com](mailto:vietqle@hotmail.com)  
**Phone Number:** c: 267.979.6396

**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Lured by its activist heritage, its sizable queer student community & the possibility of sex with well-dressed hipsters, Viet matriculated at Oberlin College, a liberal bastion at the northern edge of Ohio. During his first month, he could be seen darting around campus donning oversized glasses and a plaid green vest...his hair pulled back in two tight pigtailed that shot out from his neck like a black bird's butt.

All day, every day, Viet seemed on the move. He zipped in and out of classrooms, and even when standing, he shifted his weight back and forth between his left and right foot as if he had to desperately urinate. But secretly Viet feared if he stood still for just a second, other students (especially those of the same sex) might actually want to talk to him and converse on topics not related to school work, race, class, gender, sexual orientation, the exorbitant cost of higher education, or the dearth of on-campus paper recycling containers. So instead of being still, Viet plowed forward...head down, knees together, slightly bent over...against the potential rejection of other classmates.

There was just one place where Viet relaxed. Two or three times a week, he slid into a back booth at the Campus Diner. He'd order a #2 egg special and while sipping on a cup of coffee, he'd smoke a cigarette. As customers came and went, Viet stayed seated and played with his left pigtail, dreaming up silly ways to change the world and about well-dressed hipsters he hoped to have sex with.

**One fun fact- something new you've learned how to do, a particularly exciting experience, a funny story:**

I can knit.



**Name:** Yassine Jamil Daoud  
**Previous Name (if any change):**  
**Address:** 11389 Little Patuxent Parkway Apt 915  
Columbia, MD 21044

**Email:** yjdaoud@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 617 216 3209



**Then to Now- tell us about the last 10 years:**

Graduated from UWC, left half of my heart there. Went to Amherst College and double majored in Chemistry and Neuroscience with premed. Worked for a year before joining Harvard medical school. Just graduated from medical school in June and currently in Maryland starting my intern year at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. More importantly, I met the love of my life, Laila El-Haddad, who works as a journalist for English.aljazeera.net. She is currently stationed in Ghaza. You should definitely read her articles (just google her). Also, the love of my life, my son Yousuf, was born on March 5, 2004. He is the most adorable thing (like mother like son) who can not seem to stay out of trouble for five minutes (like father like son). Life has been nothing but a miraculous journey and great fortune.

**Whatever you want (Pictures, reminiscing, reflections on the UWC):**

Where do I start? Without exaggeration, I think the UWC is one of the dearest places to my heart. The people there-as a group- are of the most amazing in the world. On a bad day, I just remember you folks to renew my hope of a better world.

Anyhow, just wanted to share some family pics with you.

