

Statement of Candidacy for Treasurer UCSA '09 - '10

Teoman Çelik



Ladies and Gentlemen of the UCSA,

My name is Teoman Çelik and I am a 2nd semester student hoping to major in Economics, Development Studies and International Relations. Through this opportunity I present myself as a candidate to be your Treasurer of the UCSA Board of 2009-2010!

I was born in the Netherlands and have attended both Dutch and international schools since. Having been raised by Turkish parents in a Dutch society, I was faced with the common phenomenon of being a third culture kid – someone who, having grown up in different cultures, has developed a sense of relationship to all, but does not have ownership over any. Since childhood I thought I felt more of a Dutch citizen (even though my looks prove the opposite), however I have always found myself supporting Turkey in international competitions, such as the Olympic Games.

Due to my broad set of interests and international background, I have been involved in various activities of which I am particularly passionate about Model United Nations (MUN). Therefore I was happy to be chosen as Secretary-General of The Hague International Model United Nations conference, which with nearly 3,800 participants is the largest MUN conference in the world. As my role suggests, I organized many logistics of the conference, helped keep track and advised on the financial overview of the conference and led the Student Officers' team of the conference. When studying at the International School of The Hague, I had also functioned as the Chair of its Student Council. Furthermore, I had been one of the two student representatives in the School Participation Council (Medezeggenschapraad), where I gained good overview of how funds were dealt with in upper school governments. These experiences will allow me to become an innovative treasurer who can look at issues from multiple perspectives and can be creative in the job that he is doing.

I would describe myself as an approachable, dedicated, organized and responsible person, who knows where to set his priorities, and takes responsibility where required. The job of Treasurer demands much representation, liability and accountability, aspects which I possess. Since a Treasurer needs to communicate with many different parties (various committees, UCU etc.), it is important to be a friendly and accessible treasurer who works in an efficient and consistent manner, and one who is fully dedicated to his work. These are the characteristics which I will execute as your Treasurer.

Transparency and accountability of the finances are two very important qualities that will need to be extended and improved in the next year. The funding of the UCSA is the

backbone of the organization and does not need any extreme change; however the transparency of the finances is something that must be recovered and better documented. Currently, there are General Assemblies where the finances are presented. Besides this important tradition, I suggest that all UCSA members are emailed a monthly report of their Student Association's budget. This is one way of providing members with a better insight of monetary issues in the UCSA. I believe the best way forward is openness and honesty, supported with financial policies that, perhaps more importantly, are abided to at all times. Although much effort will need to be put, precision, perfection and devotion are the goals I will strive for.

The current board has put a lot of effort into launching the UCSA website. What I would like to develop is a treasury page where publishable documents can be uploaded. Students will be able to ask questions and find out information about financial matters. To achieve this objective, a small forum could be launched, which would be accessible for all UCSA members. This forum can be also extended to the other domains of the UCSA besides the treasury only.

At all times I encourage more activities both in and out of campus. As the treasurer, I will seek for ways in which the budget will be spent consciously and effectively. I will make sure that the UCSA's money is spent on the right places, and on innovative ideas and projects. I will try to reach all of UCSA's members together with a successful UCSA board found on a strong financial backbone and a crystal clear future.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me for any questions or suggestions that you may have.

Yours Humbly,

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