Model UN Goes to the Galapagos Islands!

Spencer Nelson, Michael Brinkman, Luis Carbajal, Jon Abrahamsen, Dr. Shaw, Darren Beckham

This year MUN launched a new adventure: our first international Model UN conference! Five delegates flew to Quito, Ecuador and then on to the Galapagos islands to participate in the Latin American Model UN conference in January 2013. The students represented China and received a Distinguished Delegation award! After four days of hard work at the conference, the students got to visit the tortoise preserve, go snorkeling along the coast, and provide a day of community service hacking out invasive plant species with machetes (see more pictures on pg. 6).

Message from the Faculty Advisor

Greetings MUN Alumni!

I hope this message finds you doing well in 2013!

I can’t believe it has been two years since my last MUN newsletter! I was away for sabbatical in Poland in Spring of 2011, and I just didn’t find time to complete the newsletter in 2012. So this year’s edition is packed full of updates on how the program is thriving.
2010-11 Delegates:

* indicates New York Delegates

Special thanks to my colleague Dr. Michael Hall who travelled with the team during my sabbatical - Spring 2011!

Midwest Model United Nations, St Louis
Representing: China, Switzerland and Antigua/Barbuda

Award Recipients

Outstanding Position Paper:
Hanah Hassouneh
(Switzerland, UNICEF)

Outstanding Delegation Position Papers:
Luis Carbajal, Darren Beckham, Paris Royce, Alaina McWorter, Chikondi Ngoma, Joseph Clay, Michael LeBlanc, Sahid Bhuiyan, and Hanah Hassouneh (Switzerland)

Outstanding Delegates:
Darren Beckham (China, Historic Security Council), Jessica Miller (China, Ecosoc), Sahid Bhuiyan and Michael LeBlanc (Switzerland, IAEA)

National Model United Nations, New York
Representing: Jamaica
W. John and Connie O. McGuire Scholarship

Mr. W. John McGuire is an attorney practicing law in Washington, D.C. Prior to law school, he received his Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Public Administration from Wichita State University. While at WSU, Mr. McGuire was a regular participant in the Model United Nations program, including serving as the student coordinator during the 1979-80 school year. During his time as a member of the WSU Model UN program, Mr. McGuire was named Outstanding Delegate at the University of Pennsylvania Model UN Conference twice and was a member of several award winning delegations. Following graduation from WSU, he served as under secretary general of the National Model UN in New York and served two additional years on its governing board. Mr. McGuire and his wife, Connie, established the W. John and Connie O. McGuire Model UN Scholarship to ensure that other WSU students have the opportunity, and to encourage them, to participate in Model UN.

Recipients of the McGuire Scholarship

2011-12: Joseph Clay

Joseph has participated in Model UN for three years. He has attended six MUN conferences, serving on the GA 4th committee and the Security Council, and serving as Staff in his final year as Chair of the Security Council. He will be returning to Midwest MUN next year as a senior staff member, serving as the President of the Security Council. Joseph will be graduating this year with a degree in Political Science. He is a USMC veteran. He would like to seek employment in the area of disaster relief.

2012-13: Michael Brinkman

Michael has participated in Model UN for two years, serving on GA 3rd committee, UNODC, and the Commission on the Status of Women. He is an outstanding public speaker and delivered the opening plenary speech for China for our first international Model UN conference in Ecuador. Michael will be graduating this year with a degree in Political Science. He plans to seek an MPA with a focus on non-profit management.

Annual High School Model UN Conference

Each year WSU Model UN students have the opportunity to serve as dais staff in January as we host our annual Wichita Area Model UN (WA-MUN) for high school students. We regularly have 10-15 high schools with over 100 students representing approximately 35 delegations. Some of the topics addressed in recent years include: Food Security, Occupation of the Syrian Golan, Renewable Energy, the Palestinian Question, Nuclear Proliferation and Climate Change. Our students learn a lot about rules and procedures, as well as about professional conference behavior. For more information on this year’s conference: www.wichita.edu/wamun.
2011-12 Delegates


* indicates New York delegates

National Model UN, New York
Pictured at the Austrian Permanent Mission after our mission briefing

Midwest Model UN
Representing: Cuba, Saudi Arabia, France (SC) and Bosnia (SC)

National Model UN
Representing: Austria

2011-12 Awards
Outstanding Delegation Cuba: Aaron Larcade, Darren Beckham, Danny Cooper, Kat Rodriguez, Michael Brinkman, Spencer Nelson, Lauren Hoch

Outstanding Delegate and Delegate’s Choice: Valerie Brockman (Saudi Arabia, CSD)

Outstanding Position Paper: Lauren Hoch and Spencer Nelson (Cuba, 6th committee)
This year one of our delegates applied to serve as a justice on the International Court of Justice at the AMUN conference in Chicago. Danny Cooper sat with 12 other justices and reviewed the minute details of the cases of DRC v. Uganda, Macedonia v Greece, and a Malaysian and Singaporean memorial. The justices then wrote majority and minority opinions.

**AMUN Awards**

Outstanding Delegates: Cassie Standley and Casey Donnell (Honduras, GA 2nd)

Outstanding Delegation:

Sean McLemore, Oscar Flores, Shaelynn French, Adam Lofland, and Daniel Flynt (Honduras)

**MMUN 2013:**

Record number of awards!

Outstanding Delegation: Kasey Donnell, Sean McLemore, and Brittany Thurman (Japan, ECOSOC)

Outstanding Delegate: Daniel Flynt, Josh Walker (Japan, GA 3rd)

Outstanding Delegate and Delegate’s Choice: Kasey Donnell (Japan, ECOSOC); and Darren Beckham (Guatemala, Security Council)

Honorable Mention:

Andrea Luque (Chile, CND)

Position Paper Award:

Andrea Luque (Chile, CND)
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador 2013
(see story on p. 1)
Next year: Representing Iran

Our delegates are looking forward to representing Iran as well as the Netherlands next year at the Midwest Model UN in St. Louis!

Future Travel to Turkey

Thanks to the continued strong support from both Student Government and the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, twelve team members are planning to travel to Antalya Turkey in March 2014 to participate in the Model United Nations Turkey (MUNTR). Antalya is on the southern coast and will provide opportunities for students to see some of the famous historical areas of the region as well as participate in the conference.

Alumni News

Ceci Crosa (MUN ‘09 alumna) returned to her native Paraguay after graduation and decided she wanted to continue the MUN tradition in Paraguay. She helped host the MINNU last year. This was an inter-collegiate National Model UN with 70 students from five universities, including delegates from other countries.

WSU on Staff at MMUN

WSU has had an increasing number of students and alumni serving as staff at the Midwest Model UN conference. This year we had six people on staff: Usef Hassouneh, President of the Security Council; Joseph Clay, Chair of Security Council; Kat Rodriguez, Legal for Security Council; Eva Kurban, Chair for GA 1st; Luis Carbajal, Legal for GA 1st; and Danny Cooper, Rapporteur for GA 3rd. Next year Eva will be returning as the President of ECOSOC and Joseph will serve as President of the Security Council. These positions come with the responsibility of writing the background guides for the conference. We are proud of all your work!

MUN Retreats @ Camp Hyde

Each year WSU Model UN participants go on retreat for a day for team building exercises and personal challenge experiences. For several years we have been going to Camp Hyde outside of town. Students get to take on problem solving tasks as a group, as well as attack the climbing tower to see how far they can go!
Dr. Carolyn Shaw  
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Check out our webpage:  
www.wichita.edu/modelun

I love to hear from alumni!  
Drop me a note...  
Email: Carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu

Picture Gallery

Brittany Thurman and Olivia Sullivan  
Adam Lofland  
Josh Walker and Jon Abrahamsen

Casey Donnell, Brittany Thurman,  
Sean McLemore  
Cassie Standley and Oscar Flores  
Andrea Luque and Genesis Mercado