

Model UN Newsletter

April 2007

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Wichita State University Model United Nations team partnered with Johnson County Community College (JCCC) to represent France at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York this spring. Students sat on a total of 16 different committees, including holding a permanent seat on the Security Council. Students negotiated with other delegates in committee sessions for four days seeking to address problems of global concern, and to promote France's interests in the documents being drafted. All of the hard work paid off in the end. The committees drafted excellent resolutions and our team was awarded an Outstanding Delegation Award in the closing ceremony. This award takes a full team effort. All delegates must be



Brandon Hottman, seated at France's desk in the UN General Assembly

visible and active in their committees throughout the conference. Delegates are expected to work toward consensus which involves considerable diplomatic skills to bring together delegates with widely differing views.

Students from both schools felt that the cooperative endeavor was very worthwhile and are planning another partnership for next year in New York (hopefully representing another P-5 member!)

Endowed Scholarship

Thanks to the generous contributions of a number of MUN alumni, we have raised approximately one-third of the \$10,000 needed to create an endowed Model UN scholarship. If you are interested in contributing, specify that your donation should go to the "Model UN Scholarship". Mail checks to the Foundation at Box 2, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS, 67260-0002

Committee Award in the World Food Program



Nadine Sauerwein (left) and Brittany Stiffler (right) came home with an Outstanding Delegate award from their committee in addition to the team awards. Nadine and Brittany worked in the World Food Program and faced significant challenges in trying to persuade

their fellow committee members not to duplicate work that had already been done by the actual World Food Program in addressing the issues of Food Distribution to States Subject to Sanction, and Distribution Considerations for Refugees and in Conflict Zones.



French Mission Briefing

Prior to the start of the National Model UN conference in New York, our students had the opportunity to visit the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations. The French spokesman for the mission devoted an hour and half to answering the students' questions about the French position on different issues. The issue that raised the greatest amount of discussion was the situation in Darfur and how to respond.



Deronda Aiken, Brittany Stiffler, Brandon Hottman, Jonathan Dravis, and Matt Goad

Karadzic and Mladic Found Guilty

The simulation of the International Criminal Tribunal on Yugoslavia heard testimony from the prosecution and defense in the trial of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic for war crimes committed during the Yugoslav civil war. For the sake of the simulation, the defendants were captured and brought to stand trial in the Hague. Marcus Hedrick was among 9 justices serving on the court which found the defendants guilty on 17 counts.

Too much time in Atlanta!

Our delegates came to know the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta airport far better than they wanted to this year. On our way to New York, La Guardia (and much of the east coast) was shut down following a snow storm, leaving us stranded in Atlanta for the night. We got in through Newark the next morning and fortunately did not miss any of the conference. On our return trip, our flight out of La Guardia was delayed. We missed the last connecting flight to Wichita, and again spent the night in Atlanta! Hopefully we'll have better weather for our travels next year!

WSU Represents Colombia at Midwest Model United Nations



WSU participants in 2006-2007: (left to right)

Kyle Aldrich, Brandon Hottman, Nadine Sauerwein, Marcus Hedrick, Deronda Aiken, Matt Goad, Lizzie Bernhart, Jonathan Dravis, and Jerrod Higginbotham

(not pictured: Brittany Stiffler and Matt Long)

Captivating Keynote Speakers in St. Louis

As delegates eagerly awaited the opening ceremony for the Midwest Model United Nations in St. Louis, they weren't sure who to expect as the keynote speaker. There was a murmur of surprise when Dr. Barukh Binah, Israeli Consul General, was introduced. Dr. Binah proceeded to speak candidly to the students about the challenges

that Israel faces as a state, and in working through the United Nations. Although students listened respectfully, there were many in the room that took issue with his statements. This led to an engaging dialogue between students throughout the conference. During the Plenary sessions on the last day of the conference, Representa-

tive Russ Carnahan (MO 3rd District) addressed the delegates and congratulated them on their hard and worthwhile committee work. He praised the students for their interest in global affairs and encouraged them to continue to be active in improving the world around them.



MMUN Board of Directors

Dr. Carolyn Shaw, MUN Faculty Advisor, is leaving the Midwest Model UN Board of Directors this year after completing a three year term as a Faculty Representative. MMUN, Inc. strongly values the input of faculty members and it was a pleasure to serve.

Outstanding Delegate in Peacebuilding Commission

Marcus Hedrick (right) won an Outstanding Delegate award in St. Louis where he served on the Peacebuilding Commission representing Colombia. The Peacebuilding Commission is a newly created UN body designed to bring together the UN's broad capacities and experience in conflict prevention, mediation, peacekeeping, rule of law, respect for human rights, reconstruction, and long term development. www.un.org/peace/peacebuilding



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[www.wichita.edu/
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WSU Model UN Delegates Receive Outstanding Position Paper Award



The French Delegation, represented by WSU and JCCC, received an Outstanding Position Paper Award at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York this spring. Every student on the team must submit their position papers to the conference a month ahead of time to even be eligible for the award. Students invest hours of time in un-

derstanding the nature of the topics being addressed in their committees, then strive to accurately articulate the French position on the issues in their position papers.

Some of the topics addressed in committee this year included: Improving Compliance with Non-proliferation and Disarmament Agreements, Protect-

ing Human Rights in Darfur, Strengthening Reconstruction in the Aftermath of Natural Disasters, Eliminating Drug Supplies through Alternative Development, Combating the Spread of Avian Flu, Challenges in Assessing Global Oil Demand Prospects, the Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources.