

Model UN Newsletter

April 2008

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WSU Brings Home National Award

Wichita State University Model United Nations team partnered with Johnson County Community College (JCCC) to represent the Philippines at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York this spring. The joint delegation received an Honorable Mention award at the closing ceremonies held in the UN Great Hall of the General Assembly. Students sat on a total of nine different committees, addressing issues ranging from the role of private security companies in conflict zones to the politics of the external debt crisis to promoting alternative sources of energy. Students spent many hours researching these issues before the conference as they prepared their formal position papers. After four



Back row: Lisa Decow and Matt Agnew;
Front Row: Alex Truong (L) and Drew Steadman (R)

days of intense caucusing and negotiations, students voted on the resolutions in their committees. WSU team members were pleased with

the award since only the top 20 percent of delegations receive awards and they were competing with schools from around the world.

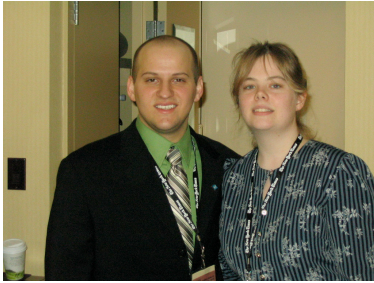
Endowed Scholarship Update

Special thanks to those alumni who have made contributions to the Model UN Endowed Scholarship Fund! Unfortunately this past year the Foundation raised the minimum amount necessary for a fund to become endowed. Our goal is now \$15,000 instead of \$10,000. We still have a way

to go to reach our goal, but I am confident that we can reach it. As I consider the valuable assistance that the Political Science Department scholarships provide to our students, I am convinced that this new scholarship will serve our students well, rewarding those Model UN participants who have

demonstrated outstanding abilities in the program. If you would like to contribute, specify that your donation should go to the "Model UN scholarship". Mail checks to the Political Science Department, attn: Carolyn Shaw, 1845 Fairmount St., Wichita KS, 67260-0017.

WSU Holds Security Council Seat



Brandon Hottman and Lizzie Bernhart

WSU delegates got the unexpected opportunity to sit on the Security Council again this year in New York. Although we were assigned to represent the Philippines, our delegation was too large, so the conference organizers gave us a seat on the Alternate Security Council representing China! Brandon Hottman and Lizzie Bernhart took on the challenge of representing China's interests in addressing the Situation in Somalia, as well as the impact of Climate Change on Global Security.



Secretary General Ban Ki Moon Addresses Delegates



Secretary General Ban Ki Moon

On the opening day of the conference, delegates gathered in front of the United Nations building in New York to pass through security for the opening ceremony. It was not until we were actually seated in the General Assembly Great Hall that we learned that Secretary General Ban Ki Moon and Dr. Srgjan Kerim, President of the General Assembly and Ambassador from Macedonia, would be the keynote speakers for the ceremony. Both spoke of the importance of the next generation, the students gathered in the Great Hall, for addressing the many crucial issues facing the world today. Both were greeted with standing ovations, which they wryly noted was unusual, but deeply appreciated.



GA President
Srgjan Kerim

Philippine 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



Dr. Carolyn Shaw, Faculty Advisor

the Philippines to the United Nations. The Deputy Permanent Representative, Mr. Leslie B. Gatan, met with our delegation for over an hour, answering student questions regarding the Philippines' position on a variety of issues and sharing his own experiences as a UN diplomat. He was quite pleased with the knowledge the students demonstrated regarding his country's foreign policy.

Down time in the Big Apple

Although WSU students spent four intense days in MUN committee meetings, they also had a little bit of time to enjoy the city of New York. On our first night in town, we caught an off-Broadway play titled "Betrayed". It featured the stories of three Iraqi ex-patriots who had worked for the US in the Green Zone, and were eventually forced to seek asylum abroad. On March 17, we were literally swept up in the St. Patrick's Day parade on Fifth Ave. as we made our way to the Philippine Mission. I've never seen so much green in one place before! On one of our last nights in town, one of our



students discovered a local Turkish restaurant called Limon (picture Left), which offered great food and service. Highly recommended if you are in Murray Hill in NYC!

WSU Takes 3 Delegations to St. Louis: Switzerland, South Africa and the Philippines



(L-R) Matt Agnew, Tatiana Sibai, Alex Truong, Brandon Hottman, Pierce Sanders, Lizzie Bernhart, Spencer Ward, Chevis Rebstock, Daniel Shaub, Drew Steadman, Lisa Decow, Ganiyu Kuye, Amondi Ashang, Morgan Brammer, Daniel Rathbun, Megan Young, Logan Harrison, Whitney Heitman, Brady Baus, Jana Riddick

St. Louis Award Winners

WSU students came home with four awards from the Midwest Model UN Conference in St. Louis in February. Lizzie Bernhart won Outstanding Delegate in the Human Rights Council

representing Switzerland; Matt Agnew won Outstanding Delegate in the First Committee

representing Switzerland; Spencer Ward won Honorable Mention in the Commission on Sustainable Development representing the Philippines; and Drew Steadman won Honorable Mention in First Committee representing South Africa.



Chevis Rebstock and Spencer Ward, on the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)

German Consul Addresses Delegates



German Consul General Wolfgang Drautz welcomed students at the Opening ceremony of the Midwest Model UN Conference in St. Louis this February. He spoke of the special relationship that Germany has with the UN, serving as the third largest contributor to the UN budget, and actively supporting its peacekeeping operations around the world. He also addressed the issue of Security Council reform and Germany's hope to secure a more permanent place in the Council.

Wichita State University



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Check out our webpage:
[www.wichita.edu/
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*I love to hear from alumni!
Drop me a note...*

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Picture Gallery



Megan Young and Whitney Heitman



Matt Agnew and Alex Truong



Whitney Heitman, Morgan Brammer and
Lisa Decow



Jana Riddick and Drew Steadman



Tatiana Sibaai