
THE CHAIR'S DISCRETION

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 1

ODUMUNC XXXVII

21 FEBRUARY 2014

The World Has Problems, Let's Get to It

Welcome to ODUMUNC 37! Here is where we stand. Crisis communications are breaking down everywhere. The world no longer allows crimes against humanity to be overlooked. Challenges of disaster relief are too overwhelming to rely on improvisation. The list goes on. 10 bodies are starting work solving 28 official issues.

You have work to do. It doesn't matter if your country is a progressive innovator or a champion of the status quo. You need to get outspoken and active. All I can promise is it won't be easy. Solving world problems is never easy.

Your staff has been working for months to make ODUMUNC 37 the best international simulation ever. Now it is your turn. Take charge! Get active! It's going to be a blast.

If you need help go to Home Government. They are there for you. Or come see me. I'm easy to find; look everywhere in the Sheraton!



Secretary-General Gulshan Chattha

Meet your Body!

Jasmine Mayes

You are one of over 1,000 delegates at ODUMUNC representing 85 countries, 50 NGOs and 20 crisis decision-makers. The key to everything are your body and your assignment.

Take the time to study your body's issue briefs. They're on the conference website, http://al.odu.edu/mun/conference/index_2014.shtml and copies are for sale.

Every body quickly develops its own character. As you try to get the best resolution through, look for your allies, adversaries, and those all-important in-betweens. Speak out, work the blocs in caucuses, and write working papers (draft resolutions).

And don't think success only means getting your resolution passed. Sometimes stopping the other guy's *so-called* resolution is an ever bigger victory. Hey, it's the UN!

Make *The Chair's Discretion* Work for You.

We're here for you! If your delegation needs to get the word to other countries, to your voting bloc, your allies or enemies, or that weird kid two rows up, put it in *The Chair's Discretion*. If you have personal notes, reflections, or anything you just have to tell the world, put us to work for you. Submit your notes to *The Chair's Discretion*. See or text, Jasmine Mayes, *Chair's Discretion* Editor. The reporting staff is in the Wilton Room. Get your point in the next *Chair's Discretion*!

Let's Meet your Chairs!

First Committee: DISEC

Will Turner

I am a sophomore at Old Dominion, and my second year in model UN. My major is political science with an international concentration. I'm excited to be a USG this semester for ODUMUNC, and excited to be on the Dias for a second year at ODUMUNC as well.

Third Committee: SOCHUM

Courtney Celiz

Originally from Dallas, Texas, I moved to Norfolk, Virginia after my fiancé a Naval Officer was stationed his first year here in 2012. Since then, I've been at ODU 2 years and am a senior graduating this May with a Bachelors of Science in Political Science and a Minor in International Studies. At ODUMUNC, I am proud to say I will be chairing for the SOCHUM committee. I most look forward to observing and evaluating what everyone has to offer when discussing my committee's important issues.

I expect my delegates to be prepared, treat the committee as well as the topics with respect, and for everyone involved to be genuinely passionate about the said topic and conference. I have been involved with Model UN for almost two years, and want to really encourage any first time ODUMUNC delegates to not be intimidated by the conference. Last year was my first ODUMUNC; while I was a Vice-Chair then I admired the students who though seemed timid still gave their "two cents" no matter what.

That is true to the United Nations. While all the topics introduced to the SOCHUM committee are important, topics 2 and 4 are important questions of SOCHUM as well as in International Law. I would love to see each delegate's interpretation, thoughts, and solutions on these topics. Furthermore, I expect delegates to speak not broadly but really consider how each topic affects their own assigned country as well as the impact it has on their states regional and international relations.

All the best, Courtney Celiz

Fourth Committee: SPECPOL

Brian Rinaldo

Hello All,

I'll be chairing this year's General Assembly 4th Committee Special Political and Decolonization (SPECPOL). I've just started my second semester of graduate school in English Literature while currently serving as Old Dominion Model UN's head delegate, where I plan and lead our competitive endeavors. This is my fourth time chairing at ODUMUNC at the tenth time on a dais overall and I'm looking forward to another year of amazing and innovative solutions to the legacy of colonial history. Of the three topics our committee has before us the Reinvigoration of the Trusteeship Council strikes me as being the most original with room for creative ideas. For those concerned with awards criteria participation at all levels and an attitude comity are absolute requisites. Anyone looking to bribe me is suggested to come bearing Amazon gift cards and flattery.

UN World Conference on Disaster Relief and Prevention

Mo Khatib

Mo is our most senior, experienced and loved chair. He has been with MUN for 13 years and was President of the society in 2002-03. Mo is always calm and appears to have a unique presence in the society as well as a chair. Patient and fair, he even gives his dais members a chance to try their hand at being chair. His committees run seriously and smoothly, but he also likes to make sure that it is an enjoyable and educational experience for everyone.

Economic and Social Council

Luke Watson

Howdy. My name is Luke and I am thrilled to be chairing my favorite committee and working with delegates to resolve global issues and sing karaoke. I am currently in the middle of a masters program in economics. I love MUN because it gives everyone the opportunity to discuss important issues and highlights our ability to make our world better. Funfacts: I love listening to the Smashing Pumpkins, reading Haruki Murakami, and watching Star Trek.

Best, Luke.

NGO Forum

Robby Townsend

Hey! My name is Robert Townsend, but you can call me Robby. Or Rob. Or Mr. Chair. I am the chair of NGO and look forward to having a fun three days at ODUMUNC with all of you. I've been with ODUMUNC for four years and it has coincidentally been some of the best years of my life! I'm graduating this May with degrees in Psychology and English.

Ever since my first ODUMUNC, the NGO-ECOSOC bodies have greatly interested me because they give the common people a way to have their voices heard in the United Nations system. We will be working very closely with ECOSOC, and have to go faster than the usual GA committees in order to complete our goal of influencing the UN policies. This may be challenging, but we will make some awesome resolutions and if ECOSOC doesn't listen to us, we get to vote their resolutions down! But let's make sure that doesn't happen. If you're new to ODUMUNC, the best advice I can give you is to not be afraid to sound stupid. Everyone thinks differently and has unique approaches to each problem, and it's vital to lend your ideas to this process.

Security Council

Michael Chatman

I am the wonderful chair for Security Council. I have been with ODUMUNC for my third year now, and after being the amazing computer tech person to the even greater Vice Chair of the infamous Pikachu throwing legal committee after an intervention I have become a Chair. I am currently in pursuit of a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. I am excited for this year of ODUMUNC, and I am

looking forward to getting down to business. I am greatly looking forward to working in a serious Security Council atmosphere with the delegates. We will be discussing Responding to Militant Religious Extremism in Sub-Saharan Africa, Responding to Insurgency and Instability in Columbia, Responding to Challenges of Instability and the Reform in Egypt and Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea. All of these issues are unfolding in front of us today, and it will be amazing to see you guys create your own solutions. For those delegates who are nervous please don't be number one thing I am looking for is staying true to your country platform by working with your allies. Another major point to keep in mind is working together as a double delegation equally distributing your work in speaking and writing. And remember if you want to make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and make that change.

Future Security Council

Connor Clarke

Connor Clarke grew up the only son of horse ranchers in the rolling hills of Fauquier county Virginia. His earliest memory was sleeping in the stalls with the horses during the winter, since electricity wasn't brought to the suburbs of Northern Virginia until late 1998, or at least that's what his parents told him. His first friend was a small pony he named Bill after his favorite literary pony. Connor and his pony got into many misadventures, but due to word count limitations and cease and desist letters from the lawyers of many famous authors, they cannot be mentioned here. Eventually, the pony Bill broke his leg and had to be put down. Connor knew that he should be the one to end his greatest friends suffering. As he stared into the sweet gentle eyes of Bill, his best friend stared back into him, and in that moment Connor knew that one day Bill's kind would have their vengeance on Connor. After that moment, Connor knew he must escape the horse lands, and he fled to Norfolk, Virginia, where he enrolled in ODU. While Connor enjoys his time in Norfolk, he still mourns the loss of his dear friend to this day. To help in the long and drawn out grieving process, your Chair expects you all to channel your passion into your work throughout the weekend in order to make your committee the best as possible, just how Bill would have wanted.

Human Rights Council

Christina Dietrich

Hey! My name is Christina Dietrich and I am the Chair for the Human Rights Council of ODU-MUNC XXXVII. I graduated from ODU this past December but didn't want to miss the opportunity to participate in ODUMUNC one more time. I have only be involved with the Model UN for about one year but have enjoyed every minute of it.

I look forward to seeing all of the delegates discuss creative and diplomatic solutions to some of the world's most troublesome conflicts. For those of you who are new to ODUMUNC, don't be nervous. I would recommend reading the issue briefs, becoming familiar with your country's position and asking Robby from NGO to do his impression of Obama.

Historical Simulation: Russia

Kym Ganczak

Hi! I'm Kym (aka Tzar Kym) and I'm really excited to be chairing the Russian side of the Russo-Japanese War HCC! This is my third ODUMUNC as a joint crisis committee chair, and I'm thrilled to be at it again, wreaking havoc and rewriting history! I'm a first year Master's student in International Studies at ODU, and I graduated from ODU with political science and international studies degrees, which basically equates to a degree in MUN. I'm really looking forward to working with all of the delegates not only on the Russian side, but also the Japanese side. Just relax, focus, and work hard and you'll succeed! I can't wait to see what we can achieve together...or unravel. удача (Good luck) to all of you!

Historical Simulation: Japan

Kelsie Burkhard

Hello everyone! Welcome to ODUMUNC 37! MY name is Kelsie Burkhard, and I will be your chair for the historical committee: Resolving the Russo-Japanese War of 1905, from the Russian side. I am a senior at ODU and have been with ODUMUNC for almost 3 years now, although I attended ODUMUNC for two years as a high schooler. I am actually the current president of the ODU model united nations society! I am looking forward to a great conference, full of surprises, debate, and fun! I can't wait to chair excited students and deal with whatever crazy crisis is thrown our way. I am excited to meet each and every one of you! Bring your enthusiasm and lets get started! PS- Ask me anything about joining ODUMUNC!

Meet Your Crisis Staff

Security Council

Watson Swail

Hello, I'm Watson Swail and I am Crisis Manager for Security Council at ODUMUNC 37. I hope you all enjoy what we've got planned! What are you still reading this bio for? DAVAI.

Future Security Council

Chris Steadman;

Howdy everyone, I'm Chris Steadman and I'm the Crisis Manager for the Future Security Council at this year's ODUMUNC. I am a bit of a bow tie connoisseur; I have a bow tie for every day of the month (without repeating) and one for most holidays. Future Security Council should be awesome this year, and I'm looking forward to getting committee started.

Historical Simulation

Brenden Cooley

Hi, I am your Crisis Manager for the Joint Crisis Committee, your USG of Crisis, and ODUMUNC's resident powergeek. I truly hope you enjoy what my team and I have prepared for you this year. While I am not working hard bringing you a quality crisis product, I spend my time reading science fiction, watching pro wrestling, playing tabletop RPGs, and living in repose.



ODUMUNC37

Official Conference Merchandise

T-Shirts (Red & Blue): \$12

Sunglasses: \$4

Lapel Pin: \$5

Notepad: \$1

Lanyards: \$3

Backpack: \$7

Thumbdrive: \$5

Zipper Padfolio: \$15

Issue Brief Book: \$20

Pocked UN Charter: \$2

Birchwood Roses: \$1

