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# THE CHAIR'S DISCRETION

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VOLUME 35, ISSUE 3

ODUMUNC XXXV

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2012

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## S.C. Special

by Robert Townsend



*Delegates look on for next brief*

The Security Council, in conjunction with NATO and AU, have been working quickly and persistently for the past two days in order to create successful resolutions for harrowing events plaguing our world. While their chair, Adam Bullock, needed to take the reins for awhile in order to set them on the right path, the delegates soon got a handle on the situation and got things passed.

10,000 soldiers from many countries worldwide are either lost or have died, yet for some reason the economy of South Sudan would seem to take precedence.

While there have been a number of countries who take charge in order to create peace in Africa, Germany has proven time and time again that they know what to do and can make things happen. Through thick and thin, and even after a issue brief that left delegates completely blindsided by an evil man named Jean Paul Garrang, the SC continues to be a leading force in international politics.

Today more crises await the delegation as they attempt to solve a refugee crisis plaguing the nation of Kenya.

## Crisis Strikes at ODUMUN (behind the scenes of the crisis staff)

*Introduction by Sonoko Saito, Article by Kelly Choi and Joanna Morelli*

Even with crisis news and their updates constantly coming in via crisis staff who interrupted debates by merely walking in or by almost tearing doors off of doorframes, the delegates were responding to these matters in a more composed manner than yesterday. The triple joint crisis is new to ODUMUN, and on the first day the crisis committees had a hard time adjusting to the new system. By Saturday though, a number of notes were handed to respective delegates, a few of whom left the conference room to contact their home governments, and everything ran more smoothly. Rapid response was key to managing the flow of crises, but the delegates debated things thoroughly before voting.

The crisis news is managed by a special crisis staff. In the crisis committee room, staff members are busy working on both incoming and outgoing news. One of the members responded to our interview during one of the rare quiet intervals, after which he left, carrying a bunch of documents to be passed to the hands of delegates in the conference rooms.

*Continued on page 2*

*- Sonoko Saito*



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### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

CHAIRS UPDATE...PAGE 3

FOR THE THINGS THAT FIT  
... PAGE 7

PICTURES AND QUOTES...  
PAGE 8

## **Chairs Update**

### **DISEC**

Today when the General Assembly began, the delegation continued with the pressing International Resolution 1.3 Regarding Transparency and the Reduction of Nuclear Weapons. The delegation chose an extremely broad topic for their first topic of debate. The delegation worked very hard revising and working diligently to pass their resolutions. Everyone felt his or her resolution would pass. Out of four resolutions, there would only be one that passed the voting. Resolution 1.3 passed with its sponsors being El Salvador, Finland, France, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Lithuania, Tunisia, DR Congo.

We had a happily welcomed visit by Alumni and Former Secretary General Matthew Grizzle, and he visit was welcomed and enjoyed by all delegates.

The Delegations were impressed with the well served and job that the first time Chair Gulshan Chattha. The Delegations was quite happy to have the Resolution pass after much hard work.

Two humorous moments: the delegations of Italy and Jamaica, negotiating important world issues, proposed an International bake sale to help them solve the worlds pressing issues while enjoying a large chocolate cake. Also, a speaking blooper of referring to Transparency as Transparent Weapons led to suggestions of possible new materials made of items like glass.

Some interesting points of the day included Djibouti sitting all the way in the back and asking "Could someone get Djibouti from the back." We also had the privilege of having Joe Jonas as our paper runner (or at least an incredibly close doppelganger). The only thing missing was the rest of the Jonas Brothers. Also the dais has found out what Turkey Bingo is! Note pads and the paiges were heavily used during these sessions.

### **SocHum**

Day one got off to a quick start, and by the end of the day SocHum had thoroughly debated the issue of human trafficking and several working papers were written and passed.

Multiple resolutions passed with high regards by the committee. One of the less serious (but undeniably effective) resolutions that passed, which was headed by the Dominican Republic, proposed cloning Liam Neeson as a solution to human trafficking.

By the end of the first day, parameters had been established for a second topic, defamation of religion. Delegates quickly engaged in debate on the second day and two spirited sessions, several draft resolutions have been written and are being presented on the topic.

A central conflict of the committee has emerged, the preservation of national sovereignty vs. order. Some country's delegations have proposed solutions to problems involving in depth regulations and strict controls, while others have taken a stance of neutrality, insisting that countries should be left to handle their own affairs.

At the onset of the third day, draft resolutions on defamation of religion will continue to be presented, and hopefully votes on the draft resolutions will be held in a timely manner. An example was made of a more poorly written resolution. Using it as an example of poor problem solving and an over-step of the bounds of the UN's powers, delegates worked.

While the delegates certainly showed a high amount of creativity within their working papers, some of their more humorous moments occurred on paper in the form of notes to the dais. From stickers of happy animals to sweet poems and obscure shows of admiration, SocHum's delegates loved to give the dais something to laugh at.

### **Legal**

The Legal Committee has had many heated debates, with the most controversial topic so far being the self-determination of Palestine. One of the best moments of the debating came from Israel who, in full character, stated their strong beliefs against Palestine and gave many facts to support their beliefs. Hamid gave a powerful response back refuting their claims. Even though it was supposed to be a question and answer period, their accurate role playing showed the knowledge and passion from the Israeli delegation. This was also the most influential moment within the Legal committee, as the debate immediately began to make progress after Hamid finished.

Two resolutions have been passed so far, both regarding the self-determination of Palestine. Both resolutions were overwhelmingly supported not simply because of the strength of the papers, but because the majority of delegates are cooperating well with each other and getting things done as a group, not as individuals.

The funniest moments of Legal committee came during moderated caucuses. Delegates seemed more than happy to utilize their ability to filibuster debates and keep others from speaking. Sadly, many helpless delegates did not feel the same jubilation about these filibusters.

First was Iraq, who wasted the final 30 seconds of a moderated caucus by counting down from 30 to zero. Then, in an attempt to make sure their paper would make it through printing and get presented, the delegation of Iraq spent a full five minutes "tactfully" wasting time.

Cuba was responsible for the second Great Filibusters. They wasted almost an entire 10-minute moderated caucus by reading resolutions passed from the last topic. Later, another four minutes were used for intense learning of Cuba a la the CIA Factbook. For an almost unprecedented third time, Cuba utilized debate time in order to teach the committee even more about Cuba. It all amounted to nothing for the rest of the committee, but Cuba was very happy with their ability to slow debate in

order to force a closure and move in to voting procedures.

Although there were a few periods of stalled debate, Legal has been extremely successful at cooperating and writing papers, and it is anticipated that tomorrow debate will lead to plenty more successful resolutions.

### **SpcPol**

During the first two days of the SPECPOL committee, the delegates avidly debated Post-Gaddafi Libya. Guest chairs Valerie Sprouse and Matthew Grizzle led the committee in a feisty debate about Libya, one of the most pressing issues discussed in SPECPOL. In the spirit of the United Nations, all delegations worked passionately to ensure the stability and future success of the nascent government of that nation. Their unyielding dedication to diplomacy and a peaceful global order resulted in over fourteen working papers. Following a spirited debate, the delegates ultimately submitted nine concisely-written draft resolutions. Delegates from Kenya, Turkey, Argentina, Estonia, Syria, Spain, and El Salvador proved to be the most influential in creating proper drafts to be voted on. In the end, the delegates passed four of the nine drafts. The people of Libya can rest-assured that humanitarian aid, financial support and logistical assistance in abundance will accompany them as they chart their course into the future. They now have the confidence that the international community will be there to support them every step of the way.

Currently, SPECPOL is hard at work attempting to diffuse the unrest in Bahrain. Like Libya, the dias staff is extremely confident that the committee will again find a solution that works for all parties involved. Special recognition goes out to Germany, Turkey, Spain, Kenya, Argentina, South Africa, Canada, Estonia and Syria for their overall effort. Despite Syria's own alleged gross human rights violations and violent crackdown on dissent; Syria vehemently fought for the democratic aspirations and human rights protections for all Libyans and Bahrainis. This was a little odd with the knowledge of how Syria neglects giving these same considerations to their own people.

Much to the chagrin of the chair, the esteemed Alexander Palmer, the delegates took advantage of his absence Friday night while he was attending the alumni event. Crass remarks and disruptions proved quite a challenge for the newly trained dias staff. Upon Alex's return, the delegates were admonished and decorum continued smoothly.

### **EcoSoc**

The committee worked hard alongside the NGO committee. The committees attempted to solve the problem of rising commodity prices by encouraging free trade. Also written in were several attempts at allowing less developed nations to compete such as consideration for absolving the debts of countries crippled by natural disaster. The sponsors all agreed that the 45% increase in food prices since 2006 is disturbing and encouraged the governments of the body to assist in agriculture by small farmers and cut back on the production of biofuel (which uses crops and leads to the increase in prices). To aid in covering the inevitable high cost of such actions, the NGO Transparency International to help cover the cost involved with placing renewable energy technology in poorer nations.

Many countries were immediately concerned that the resolution was over stepping the UN's bounds by "calling" for too much. However, those concerned parties were expertly reassured that it would, in fact, do no such thing during the debate by the delegates of nations such as Egypt and France.

The vote was incredibly positive with most nations voting "yes". This is due to the skillful speech, compromise and diplomacy skills of delegations such as China, Hungary, Cuba, and France and NGO's such as The ONE Campaign, Anti-Defamation League, and Women Trafficking and Child Labor Eradication Foundation helped immensely in discussing and promoting compromises and solutions. The EcoSoc body is also composed of many nations whom are heavily affected by the rise in commodity cost which helped the resolution pass easier.

### **NGO**

It was a long and productive day in NGO. The extent of our cooperative efforts would not be possible without the constant connection with ECOSOC. Most of the delegations in the NGO committee have worked diligently on every issue brought up during debate. We would not be in such great form without their lobbying efforts. There are groups and specific delegates who have stood out among the rest.

Leila Chang and Page Hollis, from Greenpeace, were the best speakers. The Anti-Defamation League had one of the best speeches that this Dias has heard. Jenna Patel from Minority Rights was the most improved speaker.

The most involved delegations within NGO were; Greenpeace, Save the Children, International Red Cross, and One Campaign.

We would like to further recognize the representative of International Red Cross, Kolin Fasthaught, for his remarkable understanding of the rules and regulations within the United Nations.

The Dias received numerous proposals, all of which included some very descriptive clauses. In the effort in creating a more condensed proposal, delegates began to collaborate with one another and began to merge proposals. Tensions started to arise as some delegations could not come to an agreement. With the continuation of numerous un-moderated caucuses, some delegates

were able to come to an agreement to agree or disagree.

One of the two recently passed resolutions included seven NGO sponsors. With their ongoing determination, they were able to propose solutions to help areas suffering from high water pollution. The aforementioned resolution also focused on the gradual elimination of fossil fuels as well as condemning the use of nuclear power. This resolution reached super majority vote and was ultimately felt to best represent the opinion of the body.

We hope to continuously provide optimal communication between our delegates and those nations within ECOSOC, to make for an efficient and productive final day. We are proud of every single delegate and appreciate their and efforts given to the Dias.

### **FSC**

China and Pakistan started by declaring a new Kashmir, but wait, double-crossed! After the bombing of a trilateral talks held in Brazil by Ukraine in a misguided attempt to spark tensions between Brazil and the newly formed Union of South and Latin America, China and India responded by putting their differences aside to once again divide the Kashmir region, this time leaving Pakistan out of the plan.

In response, Pakistan has threatened Mutually Assured Destruction while occupying the Kashmir region with its military forces. But there is hope, in the future of the future. Thanks to the bargaining and political pressure from the members of the Security Council such as Kazakhstan, Brazil backed down from blockading the Panama Canal. The start of a trade war almost progressing into a worldwide conflict sparked the Americas and Europe to join together and develop the largest free trade organization in recent history. As this matter took precedence over the Kashmir crisis, the Pakistani insurgents took this opportunity to assault the Chinese and Indian embassies.

In a moment of crisis, the delegation from the United Kingdom managed to realign the Council to the major task at hand. Urging the other delegates to focus, the United Kingdom pushed for immediate action against the rebellious nation. After a Joint Chief member visited the Council, the delegates were reminded of their issues, procedure, and duties. After a rousing speech for progress, the Security Council was able to draft resolutions determining the fate of this region. The effectiveness of these resolutions have come into question and further work is being done to help stabilize the region. It looks like the creation of a new peace keeping mission may be the only way to provide a glimmer of hope to a region that has seen its share of conflict over the years.

### **NATO**

The mood was dreary as NATO began its second day of committee as the deliberations on Friday resulted in a substantial tragedy. They began by addressing the whereabouts of a rogue warlord who had begun amassing a large militia. This warlord created mass hysteria as he toppled the government of South Sudan. Stability reached a low point as China inserted Special Forces and Ugandan infantry and attempted to take over the freshly conflicted country. This proved to be a fatal mistake as the warlord Agiri killed and captured the Chinese soldiers. A slew of directives were passed after the Kenyan president pleaded to NATO for assistance.

NATO was able to piece together a multilateral task force to create peace and stability in the region. Later, a "leaked" intelligence brief proved that China offered a sale of arms to the Agiri conscript army even though China appealed to NATO's help. This was a high point as many countries in NATO ridiculed and accosted China for making such a careless mistake. NATO investigated other matters including the recent Norwegian cruise ship disaster and is still pondering loose ends. Key delegates were those for Poland and the United Kingdom. Poland's delegate displayed a strong understanding of how the conference worked while the United Kingdom was best at involving fellow delegates and getting them on board for negotiations.

### **AU**

The AU's most prominent issue was obtaining and maintaining communication between the other crisis committees, NATO and Security Council. The communications needed to take place as the AU needed resources from nations within NATO and Security Council. At first the AU communicated poorly with the other committees at first; however, by the end of Session 4 communication had improved.

The delegates of AU are unique in every way wearing a bowties to discussing AP Calculus and HL Physics. All delegates in the AU are winners; however, the delegations of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Algeria, and Gabon have stepped out and taken the lead. The best speech was by Rwanda; they rallied other committees to obtain humanitarian aid for African citizens in distress. The delegate for Congo has been the most influential as she has included and rallied all nations within the AU. She takes initiative, consistently suggesting new ideas. The worst thing that had happened was the motion to add 5,000 troops to the already in place 5,000 by Zimbabwe. AU soldiers suffered famine as a result.

## Crisis Strikes at ODUMUN

*Continued from page 1*

Terrell Kingwood, adorned with a festive tangerine African scarf, storms into the Security Council room, catching the immediate attention of the delegates within, and slamming the door behind him conclusively. "Why are you quiet *now*?" Kingwood, President of the African Union, demands upon the astounded expressions he receives in response to his performance. The facts are these: a crisis has been presented, in which Kenya has lost all communications with 10,000 of their refugee troops; Kenya needs immediate monetary and military aid.

The crisis presented is a complete fabrication. Staff members of the ODUMUNC are responsible for creating situations for delegates to interact and respond to; they are meant to encourage the delegates to communicate with one another more.

Douglas Johnson, the crisis manager, proudly spoke, "Joint Crisis has never been done in any other MUNs," as he skimmed a load of notes recently delivered. The Joint Crisis Committee consists of Future Security Council, Security Council, NATO, and African Union. Basically, Doug is the creator of the world that these serious-minded young people dwell in at the conference. Crisis after crisis, there is never a dull moment in the Joint Crisis Committee. Doug enters different crisis committee rooms and gives feedback on each committee's work which is communicated between the chairs of each committee. In the Joint Crisis situation, some committees know what others do not. The committees get mainstream up-to-date news relating to their crisis that is shared by all, but each of them gets a separate piece of news. Doug's aim is to make these different committees to work together, to stimulate descriptive and effective debates, and to eventually solve the mystery of these crises. The fast-paced simulation makes the ODUMUN 2012 one of the liveliest in ODUMUN's history.

*- Kelly Choi and Joanna Morelli*

## Behind the Placards

*by Duenya Hassan and Evan Washington*

Delegates have worked diligently to make the conference a success - most of the time. Pages have been trying to keep up with the constant flow of love notes. The delegates asked their colleagues, as well as their dais members to the dance.

In addition to fixating on the upcoming dance, delegates have found many ways to entertain themselves during otherwise serious debate. They passed the time by napping, writing raps, playing handheld video games, writing love notes, studying for calculus, doodling, reading magazines, bribing with stickers, and deciding to pass ridiculous resolutions. Here is a list of some of our favorite ridiculous resolutions:

*Clone Liam Neeson*

*Literally transparent nuclear weapons on the moon (made of diamonds, glass, plastic, etc.)*

*Construction of the Death Star*

Another method of passing the time by both delegates and dais members was writing horribly unfunny jokes about countries' names. Here is a list of some that should never be said again:

*Djibouti ("I'm Hungary for Djibouti.")*

*The Democratic Republic of Congo ("So you're D-R-C, do you want to D-A-N-C-E with me?")*

*Yemen ("Operation: Yemenade")*

*Switzerland ("Swiss cheese! Swiss cheese!")*

*Czech Republic ("I'll Czech your Republic.")*

*Syria ("Why so Syria?")*

But despite all of the distractions, the delegates and the staff found the experience enjoyable. They worked together to make the conference a great success, and the anticipation for next year's conference only builds.

## Dance or Rave?

*by Brittany Taylor*

The dance? More like a rave party! Talk about wild! Moshing, crowd-surfing, twerking, and fist-bumping galore. The DJ was forced to calm the crowd. There was even a line at the doors! No one underdressed. I caught a rather large glimpse of a bright, neon green tutu somewhere at the edges of the closely packed crowd. The room was dark, the music was loud, and there were bright lights dancing upon bare (and covered) flesh, the lightly tanned boards of the wooden dance floor, and the darkly colored carpet near the walls. Many teens hung awkwardly off to the side, nervous and wishing they could have as much fun as the kids giving their all. There were only a few broken regulations, and candy sales went on strong.

Everyone only wanted to have fun in one way or another - even the staff, though they still had to chaperone the high school delegates.

# Column that Fits

# SALE!!!

by Robby Townsend



*The One and Only*

“Timeless.” “Trendy.” “The must have item of the committee.” These words have eluded one thing at ODUMUNC for at least a decade. No one would buy them even when they first came out and were cool in the ‘90s. Every year, they would be pulled out from dusty boxes and then sales people, filled with animosity, would try to sell these oddly shaped blue things for a dollar to confused youngsters.

Yet beginning during ODUMUNC 34 and continuing with full force this year, our staff and delegates, led by yours truly, have turned the beloved Thing that Fits (Things that Fit) in to an incredibly fun ODUMUNC tradition. What started as a joke sales

pitch to try and get rid of some of these led to ALL 100 or so of these fittingly brilliant containers being sold to giddy buyers. After excitedly returning with no more of these Things that Fit, a box was discovered during inventory. Inside of it we discovered another 50 that fit in antiquated delegate packets. We almost through a fit. But we knew what we had to do, and this is where you all shined.

This year has been incredible for our little Thing that Fits that Could. Last year, my salespeople and I would need to spend minutes convincing just one person why they needed one of these Things. This year, delegates wouldn’t need to hear more than one word. There were still a few behind the times who actually needed to hear that you could literally fit *anything* inside of them (as long as it fits, of course) but those were few and far between.

One delegate, Emily Chen, actually received one as a surprise gift from a friend. Her happiness couldn’t be contained, just as anyone who was lucky enough to grab a Thing that Fits. Sadly, as all great Things, their time ran out. During sales pitching at the GA’s, people were so excited to purchase one that they began to hold up more dollar bills than other delegates held notes for the page, and we sold out before reaching the 3<sup>rd</sup> GA.

This tradition has been incredible. Those who have been around this conference and the Things that Fit for years are shocked to have seen them turn from a useless commodity in to one of the most asked for items, and even something that people ask for more. We’ve been so successful that the idea of getting even more for next year is up in the air. Until then, enjoy them and all the things you can fit inside if you were one of the lucky many who got a piece of ODU Model United Nations history. If you weren’t lucky enough, come back next year. We’ll try our best to fit them in our booth.

Decals  
(only 2 left)  
\$.50

T-shirts  
(only L and XL)  
\$12

Lanyards  
\$5

Backpacks  
\$15

Charters  
\$2

White boards  
\$2

Blue pens  
\$2

Black pens  
\$5

Pencils  
\$.50

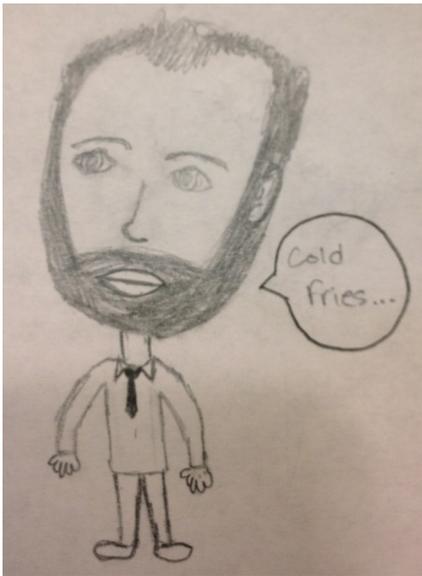
Wrist bands  
\$1

hv;kjlkjk

“When life gives you Yemen you make Yemenade.”

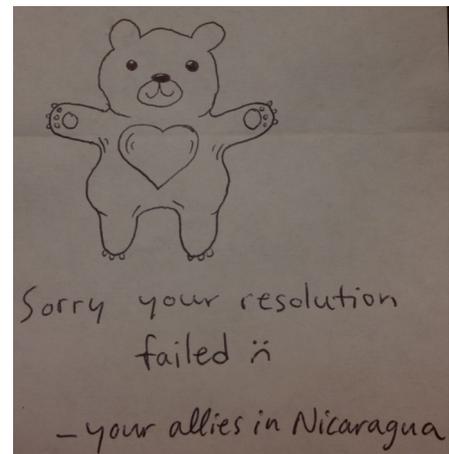
- FSC on a crisis originating from Yemen

Brian from DISEC -



“I’ll Czech your Republic.”

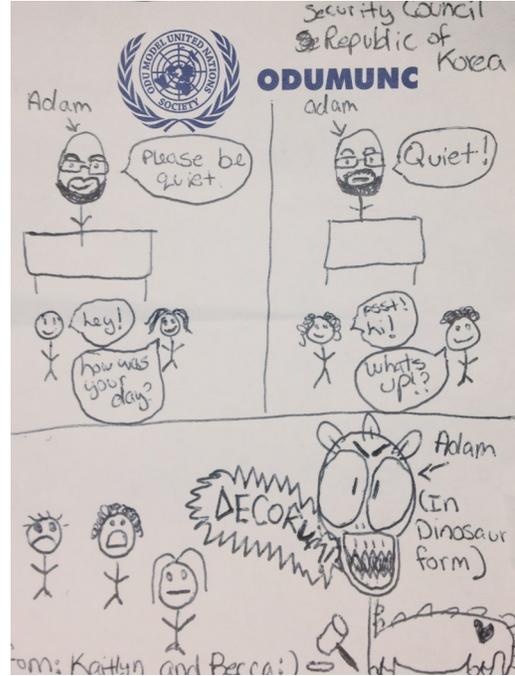
- Czech Republic



J. COOP (a rap)

He didn't smell like poop  
Chair of EcoSoc  
He knows how to rock  
Sitting in the chair  
You know he really care  
About global issues  
He has no need for tissues  
He is the sheriff  
He want to end the tariffs  
Chilling at Tropical Smoothie café  
He's gonna save the world one day

-China EcoSoc



**“WHY SO SYRIA?”**

*-Ukraine”*

*(Unknown committee)*

