
THE CHAIR'S DISCRETION

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ODUMUNC XXXVI

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Introduction from Robby

by Robby T.



Secretary General Robby Townsend

Hey everyone, I'm your Secretary-General Robby Townsend. Welcome to Old Dominion University Model UN Conference 36. My entire staff and I have been working for months to make sure this experience for all of you is the best there is to offer. The exciting new crises and Human Rights Council are only a couple examples of how we're always trying to upgrade and improve on our conferences and make everything better. Enjoy your time at the Sheraton and Downtown Norfolk if you're from out of town. If you see me running around the halls, be sure to say hello! - SG Robby T.

Got stories, notes, drawings etc. concerning your committee,? Send them to the IPC in the Wilton room for publication in the next Chair's Discretion!

Meet Your Chairs:

by Ari A.

Looming over the committees with a gavel and seated at the center of the dais table, the chairs are some of the most memorable people for delegates at the conference.

Take a moment to get to know a little about each chair for each committee or the chair whose lovely face you will be seeing for the next three days.

The chairs' levels of experience vary, and some of them are rather unique individuals. Each chair has worked hard to prepare for his/her duties. They are all eager to be working for the conference and seeing what the delegates have to bring to the table. See what they have in store for you.

Continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

THE CHAIRS...

PAGE 2 & 3

INFO AND MORE

PAGE 4

Meet Your Chairs:

Continued from page 1

Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

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.

Legal

Stephanie Higginbottom

Stephanie has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Old Dominion University, and is currently pursuing a Master's in Public Administration. Stephanie has been involved with Model UN for over 10 years. She has been ODUMUNC's club President and Under Secretary General. Stephanie currently works full time for the Hope House Foundation, is a member of the Junior League, and enjoys traveling with her husband.

Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian (SocHum)

Kyle Mayo

Grunt of acknowledgement My name is Wesley "Kyle" Mayo, and I have been participating in ODUMUNC since my sophomore year of high school. This year will be my seventh ODUMUNC conference. I spent the fall semester in Turkey for an internship. I am getting my Bachelor's in International Studies and I will be chairing SOCHUM. Sadly, this is my last ODUMUNC and although I have a stoic exterior, I love everything Model United Nations, and in my bitter old age, I will look back fondly on all my ODUMUNC memories as one of the high points of my life.

Special Political (SpecPol)

Brian Jay Rinaldo

I've been involved in Model United Nations since my middle school days. Every event, particularly the high school conferences, has brought new challenges, lessons, and friendships. I'm a senior in English Literature with a strong interest in post-colonial studies. When I'm not busy with classes or MUN, I'm also presi-

dent of ODU's philosophy club. If you're looking to bribe me, I prefer dark chocolate to milk and could always utilize some iTunes and Amazon gift cards. Looking forward to an amazing weekend in Norfolk.

Economic and Social Council (EcoSoc)

Sarah Krech

I will be chairing ECOSOC! I am a senior at ODU and will be graduating in May! I am an International Studies major and an International Business minor. I spent my Spring 2012 semester studying abroad in Sevilla, Spain, learning Spanish, and traveling around Europe. ODUMUNC will be an awesome conference with every delegation participating and working together to solve global issues.

Human Rights (HRC)

Luke Watson

Howdy! I am honored to be your chair for the Human Rights Council and I hope you all are excited for a great weekend of debate. While I'd love to get right to our committee topics, I'll give a little bio about myself. I am a senior, graduating this May, majoring in Economics and minoring in Philosophy. My plan is to go to graduate school in Economics and eventually do research on monetary policy as a career. Outside of schoolwork, I'm interested in politics, movies, collecting records, and taking months to read a single book (currently: Team of Rivals). This is the eighth ODUMUNC conference I've attended, but this is my first time as a chairman so I'm very excited for this year! We are taking on issues that will define the United Nations' purpose and ability for generations to come. These topics are designed to give you the ability to create UN policy rather than mimic steps that have already been done. I hope that we can rise to the challenge.

Non-Governmental Organization Forum (NGO)

Casey Hall

I am super-duper excited to be chairing your committee! I am a first-year student here at Old Dominion and I am majoring in Theatre (General Emphasis) and English (Creative Writing) with a minor in Spanish. I eventually want to get a PhD in International Relations and a B.A. in Political Science, among other assorted degrees. I started doing MUN my freshman year at Chopticon High School in Morganza, Maryland. I've been to several ODUMUNCs and other conferences as a delegate and have chaired for three years at Saint Mary's County's MUN Conference. As a student at ODU, I've attended two college conferences and am ecstatic to go to more. MUN is truly the bee's knees. As the representatives of various non-governmental organizations, you will work to develop solutions for several global problems and lobby the Economic and Social Committee to adopt your solutions. I look forward to seeing you all!

Future Security Council (FSC)

T.J. Wignall

You can call him "Chops," and if you have had the pleasure of being in his committee then you would know why. T.J. has been accepted into a doctoral program for aerospace engineering and currently works for NASA, but he still finds the time for some swing dancing and chairing the Future Security Council. An avid sci-fi fan, T.J. is known to give out a "Vulcan Sci-Five" and quote lines from Firefly. He also has a habit of commenting with a particular phrase on any word he hears that ends in "-er" (e.g. "MUNster? I hardly know her!").

Security Council (SC)

Shivani Upadhyay

Hello Delegates! I am studying political science and public policy here at Old Dominion University. I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of ODUMUNC36 and to have the opportunity to chair this wonderful committee. I am going to work hard to make this conference a great experience for all of you. Though this is the first time that I will be chairing a committee in college, I have been involved in with MUN since my first year of college. Ever since my first interaction, I have only grown more and more fond of and passionate about MUN. Last year, I was vice chair of Security Council for ODUMUNC35 and I had a fantastic time; I got to experience the aspects of administration and organiza-

tion that go into making such a conference possible. I look forward to meeting all of you soon! Let this Debate Begin!!!

Joint Crisis Committees (JCC)

WWI-Central Powers (C)

Kym Ganczak

'Ello all! My name's Kym, the chair of JCC: WWI, Central Powers. My goals for this weekend include destroying that blasted Entente, eating copious amounts of candy and other sweets, and trying not to drown in coffee. When I'm not creepin' up Facebook, I like going to the gym, playing games on my iPad (app suggestions welcome), and sleeping. As your leader, I expect to lead all of us to a historical victory. I assure you, our names will be the ones glorified in history books. My friends, please, let us unite to crush our enemies (and my diet) over the course of the next few meetings of our body! Viel Glück, meine Freunde.

WWI-Entente (E)

Garima Kaushal

Hi! Namaste! I will be chairing the World War 1 Entente committee. I moved from India about 5 and a half years back, and I am still pretty Indian in my ways (as if my greeting did not inform you). This will be my third year being involved with Model United Nations. I am a junior majoring in International Studies and minor-ing in Economics. I am really looking forward to chairing the WWI committee. When sitting in the MUN office, I usually like being loud. Outside of MUN, I am usually found in the library with my books or in my apartment probably watching Pride and Prejudice (yeah, the one starring Matthew Macfadyen) or some other Bollywood movie and drinking tea. My favorite thing about MUN is ODUMUNC and any and all college conferences! They help you meet people, and definitely improve your communications skills. I hope all of you are as excited for ODUMUNC36. Good luck!

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