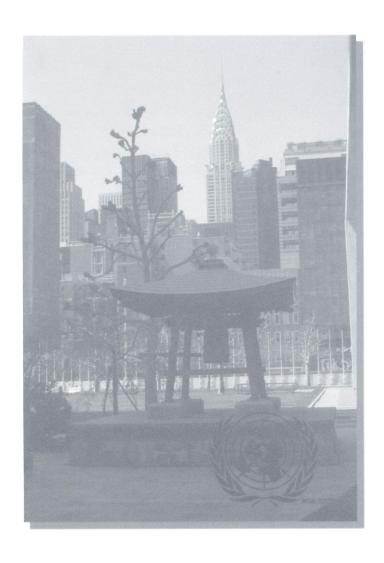
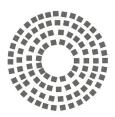
ANNUAL REPORT | 2002-2003

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION









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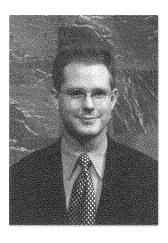




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"Not only were we able to just attend the National Model United Nations Conference; we were able to go to the Embassy for Ghana and actually speak to a representative. He was very helpful in giving us pertinent information about what really happens in government and in Ghana. This gave us an opportunity to see both sides of the coin. As normal citizens, most of us aren't aware of how hard the government works to give us certain privileges and rights that we often take for granted. The representative told us his life story. It was very inspiring and encouraged me as a delegate from Ghana to make sure that our stance on policy was represented to the fullest, knowing that somehow I was going to make a difference. This made the committee sessions more meaningful."



The National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA) mission to deliver internationally-oriented simulation-based educational opportunities for university students is realized through our sponsorship of the National Model United Nations (NMUN) program. This conference, the world's largest university-level simulation of the United Nations, provides a forum for development of knowledge about the United Nations and the wider scope of contemporary international issues.

Cooperative, hands-on learning remains the guiding principle for this simulation. From premeeting background guides and hallway caucuses, to the traditional Saturday Plenary session at the United Nations, students and volunteer staff confront a range of challenges. Through these experiences, students develop an appreciation of the frustration associated with negotiation and the rewards associated with teamwork, as well as a broader perspective on the human side of international relations.

Two central themes dominated the 2002-03 NCCA work: maintaining quality alongside growth, and beginning to review our strategic plans for the organization.

As the reputation of the quality of the NMUN program has spread, attendance has swelled to more 3,000 students from four continents. During the 2002-03 period, the NCCA moved the conference sessions to the New York Hilton to accommodate this growth. The move eased crowding problems and set the stage for future conference program opportunities. Despite program growth and a new venue, the NCCA has maintained its commitment to provide delegates access to United Nations speakers and facilities. Providing exposure to the actual United Nations during the simulation enhances the program's overall experience and inspires many students to careers in domestic or international service.

Additionally during the past year, we consolidated efforts to diversify participation in the NMUN program. Based on the existing strategic plan, the NCCA Board of Directors continued programs that enable students from a broader socioeconomic and national background to attend the NMUN Conference. Importantly, under the leadership of Professor Karen Young we continued the Diversity-Building Scholarship Initiative (DBSI). The DBSI provides a financial and mentorship structure to ensure that delegations that qualify for grants can become self-sufficient and continue to participate in the NMUN over time. Ultimately, as Board efforts to access external funding sources yield increased resources for the DBSI, this program should facilitate an expansion of efforts to promote diversity in NMUN participants.

The path forward includes numerous challenges, but the vision is clear. Over the next few years, the NCCA will continue to work to sustain educational excellence through support to the NMUN program and the continued linkages between the NMUN and the actual United Nations. Additionally, we will work to promote an ever more diverse group of staff, delegate, and faculty participants. Looking ahead, the 2003-04 Board will continue the work begun this year to develop the next strategic plan as a guide for the organization.

No one can hold a monopoly on truth, perspective, or solutions in a truly diverse world. However, an open dialogue provides the means to crystallize consensus and ultimately motivates action. With the substantive and personal skills developed through programs like the NMUN, the NCCA helps equip participants to respond in a positive and constructive way to the challenges they will face as they develop into the next generation of international leaders.

Best Regards -

Brad Prosek

President, NCCA

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



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Best Regards -

Brad Prosek

President, NCCA

THE ORGANIZATION & ITS WORK

The National Collegiate Conference Association is a nonprofit, educational corporation working to further understanding of the United Nations and contemporary international problems. We believe that through a quality educational experience that emphasizes cooperative resolution of conflict and respect for individual contributions, we provide an experience that positively affects the lives of participants and prepares them to be better global citizens.

- NCCA Mission Statement





"I was so thrilled with the experience that I decided I want to pursue a career in international relations or foreign service; or even possibly look into a career position at the United Nations itself."

The National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN) originated in 1923 as a simulation of the League of Nations. The NMUN adopted its present form in 1946, after the creation of the United Nations. The Conference is the largest and one of the most prestigious collegiate Model United Nations programs in the world. The Conference annually hosts nearly 3,000 college students and faculty members at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

The National Model United Nations offers a unique opportunity for students to better understand the inner workings of the United Nations while building skills in diplomacy and compromise. College students and faculty from all over the world work feverishly to propose resolutions addressing regional conflicts, peacekeeping, human rights, women and children, economic and social development, and the environment. A diverse group of informed participants is given a forum in which to discuss global concerns in a context that closely parallels the "real world." The NMUN Conference is one of the most effective tools for teaching students the dynamics of multilateral diplomacy and international relations.

The NMUN is sponsored by the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA). The NCCA is a non-profit, educational corporation and is also a Non-Governmental Organization associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information. The NCCA Board of Directors consists of ten members elected annually and includes members drawn from the volunteer staff as well as faculty conference participants.



NCCA Vision Statement :

"The NCCA aspires to become the leading organization educating youth about international affairs and the United Nations system, inspiring them to improve their lives and preparing them to become better global citizens." (revised as of January 2003)

NCCA STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The NCCA Board of Directors met in January 2003 to review the 1997 Strategic Plan and evaluate future opportunities for the NMUN Conference and NCCA organization. Following the objectives and goals of the first Strategic Plan, the NCCA successfully undertook and implemented key activities in growth management, technology and diversity. The Board undertook the necessary basic steps and research to prepare the organization for development and fundraising activities.

The January meeting re-established the NCCA's commitment to the new strategic planning process and a shift from strategic planning to strategic management. To that end, the Board remains committed to Growth Management, Diversity, and Development and Fundraising. In reviewing and defining past and current activities, the Board also recognized the need to further evaluate NCCA internal governance and management structures in order to better support our commitment to educating youth about international affairs.

In the coming year, the Board will work to clearly define future objectives and establish the necessary internal governance and management systems to support the NCCA and NMUN program in the future. The Board defined two areas of work, program management and governance. The working group on program management will address issues related to current program review. The governance working group is evaluating current internal governance systems. The Board will continue to meet in 2003-2004 to continue the planning process. The Board views shifting from strategic planning to strategic management and implementation as key to the success of the organization's commitment to its educational mission.

We look forward to working with our partners as we move forward with this transition. The Board expresses appreciation to Vice-President Marialyce Mutchler and former Board member Chris Eaton for their leadership in the strategic planning process.

LEADERSHIP

The NCCA Board of Directors

Brad Prosek, President
Marialyce Mutchler, Vice-President
John B. Trew, Secretary
Shawn N. Olds, Treasurer
Douglas Becker
Ingrid Busson
Erin Conaton
Richard Murgo
Brian Rettmann
Karen Young

Members Ex-Officio

Michael Eaton, Executive Director
Bret Bergst, Secretary-General
Aaron Markowitz, Director-General
Anthony Ruggiero, Secretary-General Emeritus
Mindy Sofen, Director-General Emerita
Sean Killen
Richard Reitano
Donna Schlagheck

Advisory Board

Ms. Vivian Bernstein, Co-Chief, Group Programmes Unit, UN Dept. of Public Information

Dr. Jean Gazarian, Senior Fellow, United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Mr. Stephen Halloway, Senior Advisor, Inter-American Development Bank

Ambassador William H. Luers, President and Chairman, UNA-USA

Ms. Lilli de Brito Schindler, Co-Chief, Group Programmes Unit, UN Dept. of Public Information Mr. Christopher Woodthorpe, Chief, UN Publications

Administration

Michael Eaton, Executive Director Judy Eaton, Assistant to Executive Director Paul VanCura, Assistant to Executive Director

"This experience will forever change my perception of the foreign policy process that is implemented in the actual United Nations Committees. The experience... has encouraged me to pursue a career in international affairs."

COMMITTEES & MEMBERS

OPERATIONS | The Operations Committee considers policy decisions that relate to hosting the annual NMUN conference and works closely with the conference organizers to preserve the highest levels of continuity and quality for the NMUN. The Operations Committee's charge is to ensure that innovations and modifications in annual conference business comport with the educational mission of the NCCA and do not compromise the NCCA's commitment to fiduciary responsibility.

Marialyce Mutchler (chair), Kaylin Bailey, Michael Eaton, Brian Rettmann, John Trew, Karen Young

EDUCATION | The Education Committee is responsible for matters pertaining to the educational philosophy underlying the NCCA and the NMUN. Maintaining a high quality educational experience for the participants of the NMUN is the foundation of the work of the committee. Further, the committee continuously strives to improve the delegates' experience by considering ways to make the conference more realistic and provide better research materials for our staff, delegates, and faculty.

Ingrid Busson (chair), Douglas Becker, Richard Murgo, Donna Schlagheck, Mindy Sofen

FINANCE | The Finance Committee considers operating decisions that could have a material financial impact on the NMUN conference and the NCCA. The aim of the committee is to preserve the fiscal integrity of the NMUN conference and NCCA in perpetuity. It is responsible for recommending courses of action for investment decisions and the annual NMUN conference operating budget.

Brian Rettmann (Chair), Michael Eaton, Shawn Olds, Richard Reitano, Anthony Ruggiero, Nathan Walz, Karen Young

planning exercise, the NCCA Board of Directors recognized that the Board might need to alter structures and processes in order to implement its plans. To this end, it appointed a small working group of experienced directors to review corporate, contract, personnel, and policy documents of the NCCA with an eye toward identifying the principles that underlay these documents and any changes that might be necessary. While this is an ongoing process, it is indicative of the Board's desire to mobilize the entire organization's capabilities in support of our strategic goals.



BRAD PROSEK, PRESIDENT, NCCA

Mr. Prosek has worked with simulation-based educational organizations like the National Collegiate Conference Association for more than 10 years. He has served in a variety of capacities, including staff and senior staff roles with the National Model United Nations, and Secretary-General for the 23rd National Collegiate Security Conference (NCSC) in 1995. Mr. Prosek's professional experiences span biotechnology operating company and international health care consulting environments. He currently manages partner relationships for Biogen. Mr Prosek trained in business, international political analysis, and biological sciences at Georgetown University. He resides in Raleigh, NC.

MICHAEL EATON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NCCA

Mr. Eaton first attended NMUN in 1991 while a student of Economics & Latin American
Studies at Georgetown University. He has been a volunteer staff member since 1993, including two terms as Secretary-General of the National Model UN (1997 & 1998). Mr. Eaton received a master's degree in Nonprofit Management from Hamline University. He is the Director of Enrollment Services and Marketing for the

Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs, a consortium of Midwest colleges offering experiential-based off-campus learning programs with a social justice focus (www.hecua.org). He resides in St. Paul, MN.

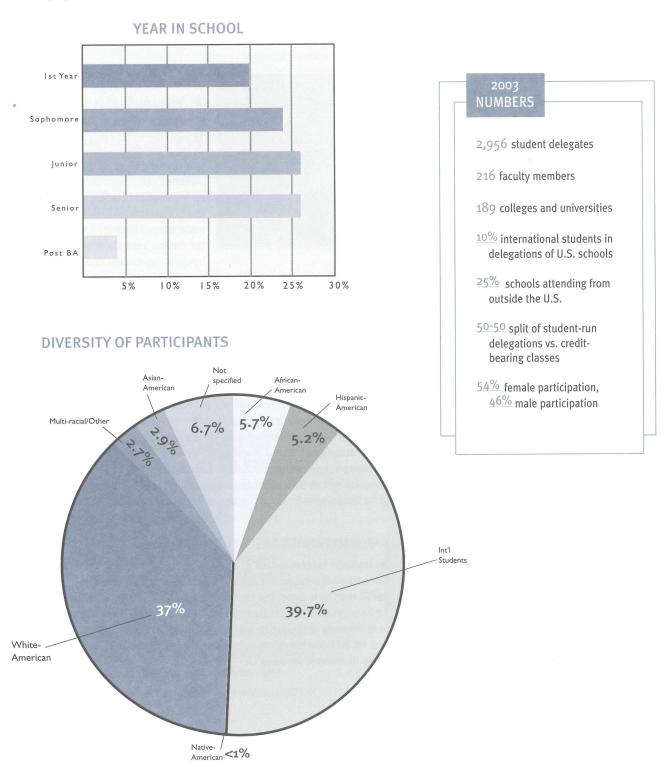
BRET BERGST, SECRETARY-GENERAL, NMUN

Mr. Bergst holds a BA in International Studies and a BS in Political Science and is working towards completing a Masters in Public Administration at the George Washington University. Mr. Bergst has been involved in Model UN at all levels since 1991, including as a participant and as an assistant advisor. In addition to his 6 years on the staff of the NMUN, he was also a 4 year staff member at the Midwest Model UN conference and served as the SG of that conference in 2000. In addition to his Model UN experience, he has practical experience with UN related environmental negotiations from his work with the World Resources Institute (WRI). Currently, he represents WRI as an NGO delegate in negotiations at the Convention on Biological Diversity. He resides in Washington, D.C.

AARON MARKOWITZ, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, NMUN

Mr. Markowitz has been involved with the NMUN since 1996, attending the Conference several times as a student, and working on staff as Director for the FAO (1999), ICJ (2000), and GA First Comm. (2001); USG for Inter-Governmental Organizations (2002); and the DG for the 2003 Conference. Mr. Markowitz holds a B.A. in Political Science from California State University, San Bernardino and a J.D. from the University of Notre Dame School of Law. Mr. Markowitz is presently partnered with his two brothers in the Markowitz Law Group. He resides in San Diego, CA.

The United Nations is a forum designed to let all voices be heard. Our conference provides a similar opportunity for future leaders from around the world to come together through dialogue and diplomacy. The presence of students of diverse ethnic and national backgrounds adds to the realism of the simulation. The quality of the National Model UN continues to attract a growing number of delegates from around the world and across the United States. The demographic information below offers insight into the composition of delegations to the 2003 conference.¹



¹ The information on this page was self-reported by schools during conference registration; 88% of schools gave demographic information.

To prepare student leadership to more effectively serve the needs of our democratic society in an increasingly global environment, it is essential that all groups be included. The MCCA recognizes the importance of access to opportunities and makes a special effort to ensure that traditionally underrepresented groups in American society attend the annual conference.

Diversity-Building Scholarship Initiative

In 2000, the NCCA created a Diversity-Building Scholarship
Initiative (DBSI) to help recruit and retain a diverse student
delegate population. The DBSI is an integral part of the
NCCA's efforts to meet both its mission and the educational
and diversity needs of the NMUN conference. To date, this
scholarship award has funded a total of 13 advisors and 79
delegates. Without the DBSI these students would not have been able
to attend the conference.

In the 2000-2001 conference year, the NCCA selected four Historically Black Colleges and Universities as recipients of scholarship grants. These grants assist deserving colleges and universities with registration, hotel and travel costs for students from traditionally under-represented populations and low income communities. Three colleges and universities were awarded \$4,000 grants in 2002 with a commitment of an additional \$2,500 grant in the following year. This multi-year grant approach allows schools additional time to demonstrate to their campus the educational value of the program in order to earn institutional support for continued participation.

With its multi-year diversity-building grants, the NCCA seeks to sustain participation of diverse students and academic institutions while also reaching out to new schools. In the 2002-2003 year, two additional schools received a commitment for two years of funding: Alabama A&M University and Florida A&M University. Schools receiving their final phase of funding this year were Albany State University, North Carolina A&T University and Tougaloo College.

Brian John Hayden Scholarship Fee Waivers

The NCCA also desires to ensure access to the NMUN to a diverse socioeconomic delegate population. In addition to the DBSI grants, scholarship fee waivers totaling \$3,000 were distributed to various schools through the Brian John Hayden Scholarship program. Schools apply to the NCCA and are awarded funds based on genuine financial need. Recipients in 2003 were: City College of New York, Greensboro College, Ohio University, Pine Manor College, Tennessee State University, University of Hawaii – Hilo, University of Montreal, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point and York College of Pennsylvania.

The more we can encourage, invite and instruct promising, diverse college students in the understanding and techniques of multilateral diplomacy, peaceful resolution of conflict, and the struggle for basic human rights, the better we can prepare students to become successful future community and world leaders. In fact, the success of our nation and the strength of our democracy depend on it."

- Prof. Karen Young, Chapman University

As we look back on the mission of our organization to increase education, to increase diversity and to increase our efforts at inclusion of all people by providing opportunities for under-represented populations, we remain encouraged by our initial efforts. As we look forward to the future, we cannot help but strive even harder toward maximizing our potential of creating opportunities that change, inspire and empower our youth to greater service and social responsibility so greatly needed in our nation today.

The Board especially recognizes Karen Young, chair of the Diversity-Building Scholarship Initiative Committee, and Richard Reitano for their long-standing vision and leadership.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors, NCCA:

We have reviewed the accompanying balance sheet of National Collegiate Conference Association, Incorporated as of May 31, 2003, and the related statements of activities, functional expense and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of National Collegiate Conference Association, Incorporated.

A review consists principally of inquiries of the organization's personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

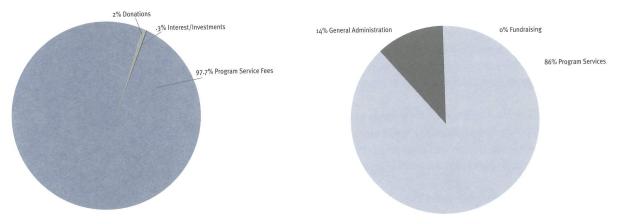
Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Larson, allen Wielaw to, It

LARSON, ALLEN, WEISHAIR & CO., LLP Certified Public Accountants Minneapolis, MN June 25, 2003

2002-03 SUPPORT & REVENUE

2002-03 EXPENSES



Copies of the complete financial review are available upon request.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINA	NCIAL POSITION	(all value	es in US dollars)
For the Year Ending May 31	2003	2002	2001
Assets			
Current Assets:			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 184,776	\$ 85,441	\$ 132,396
Accounts Receivable	1,775	726	-
Prepaid Expenses & Other Current Assets	1,308	4,717	5, 078
Total Current Assets:	\$187,859	\$ 90,884	\$ 137,474
Other Assets:			
Short-term Investments	\$ 103,861	\$ 155,744	\$ 80,334
Equipment (Net)	9,603	1,456	6,412
Total Assets	\$301,323	\$248,084	\$ 224,220
Liabilities & Net Assets			
Current Liabilities:			
Accrued Liabilities	\$ 18,000	\$ 13,590	\$ 10,091
Deferred Revenue	1,025	445	3,421
Total Current Liabilities:	\$ 19,025	\$ 14,035	\$ 13,512
Net Assets:			
Unrestricted	\$ 282,298	\$ 234,049	\$ 210, 708
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$301,323	\$248,084	\$ 224,220

		(ull value	es in US dollars,
For the Year Ending May 31	2003	2002	2001
Support & Revenue			
Program Services	\$ 250,213	\$ 209,672	\$ 87,850
Donations	5,910		
Interest Income	2,843	2,638	4,153
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(1,928)	(1,752)	(1,934)
Total Support & Revenue	\$ 257,038	\$ 210,558	\$ 190,069
Expense			
Program Services	\$ 180,122	\$ 149,561	\$ 134,968
General Administration	28,667	37,655	22,404
Total Expense	\$208,789	\$ 187,217	\$ 157,372
Change in Net Assets	\$ 48,249	\$ 23,341	\$ 32,697
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$234,049	\$ 210,708	\$ 178,011
Net Assets - End of Year	\$282,298	\$ 234,049	\$ 210,708

As an organization the NCCA is acutely aware of the financial obligation each school and each individual must make in order to participate in the NMUN. Therefore, our organization is constantly working to contain costs while at the same time securing donations to offset the cost of participation.

FINANCIAL NOTES

Revenues are derived from participant fees, t-shirt sales, miscellaneous conference services, and conservative investments. Expenses are allocated to conference and board operations.





NMUN - THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Highlights of the NMUN conference include the *Sessions in the United Nations*. Participants often claim that the opening and/or closing ceremonies held in the Great Hall are among the most memorable aspects of the Conference. Past keynote include Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

A strong *Speakers Program* every year allows participants to explore the finer points of multilateral diplomacy and global governance with leading experts and practitioners. Many distinguished speakers have been guests of the Conference including:

- Shashi Tharoor, Under Secretary-General for Public Information (United Nations)
- Jean Gazarian, (United Nations Institute for Training & Research)
- Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel, (President, Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, Deputy Permanent US Representative to the United Nations, 1979-1981)
- Major General Thomas Matthews (United States Army)
- In Jacqueline Nzoyihera (Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner)
- Ibrahim Gambari (Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations)
- Ambassador William H. Luers (Chairman and President, United Nations Association of USA).

In recognition of the increased role of *Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)* in global governance, the conference incorporates NGOs into the simulation. At the 2003 Conference 13 delegations represented their assigned NGO on various committees.

Yet another educational activity is the group *Mission Briefing*. Delegations can arrange to visit their assigned country's permanent mission to the United Nations to review foreign policy and seek guidance on issues under debate in their committees. This unique opportunity enables student delegations to ask questions and receive direct feedback from the very diplomats they are seeking to emulate.

Student delegates are also encouraged to visit the Conference's *Home Government Facility* – a foreign policy and procedure advisory service coordinated by volunteer faculty members.

The NMUN conference stands out as an exceptional educational experience for college students and faculty. The *Faculty Program*, coordinated by members of the NCCA Board of Directors, allows faculty advisors to exchange ideas on their fields of interest and on principles and methodologies used to facilitate experiential learning. In 2003, more than 200 faculty advisors participated in this series of events.

Preparing for and executing this complex undertaking requires the assistance of more than 70 Volunteer Staff Members from around the world. Their contributions ensure the conference's success.

"By representing a country that is small, Third World, and not in the limelight, I gained wisdom about a subject that may not ever be taught to me in the classroom, nor in the media." The 2003 NMUN, held in New York over 15-19 April, was a resounding success. Hosting more than 3,000 college students and faculty from all over the world, the conference exceeded all expectations. A total of 189 schools were represented and the majority of these institutions brought faculty advisors. Delegates were able to participate in a broad range of 24 simulated United Nations bodies and other international organizations.

KEYNOTE: Dr. Bernard Patry, Canadian Parliament and Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade

DEPARTMENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY & SECURITY COUNCIL

General Assembly Plenary

Mr. Jean Gazarian, Senior Fellow, UNITAR

Mrs. Nancy Zucker Boswell

Managing Director for Transparency International USA

General Assembly 1st Committee

Mr. Gary DeRosa, Political Affairs Officer

UN Department for Disarmament Affairs

United Nations Conference on Trade Development (UNCTAD)

Mr. Georg Kell, Economic Advisor

Secretary-General on Global Compact

Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean

Mr. Vincent McClean, UNDCCP Representative

International Law Commission

Mr. David Stoelting, Attorney

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP

Security Council

Mr. Jeff Laurenti, Executive Director for Policy

UNA-USA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ECONOMIC & SOCIAL COUNCIL

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Plenary

Ms. Sandra King, Governmental Relations Liaison Memorial Care/Miller Children's Hospital

Crime Congress

Ambassador Amad Kamal, Sr. Fellow, UNITAR

Commission on Human Rights

Ms. Nadya Rasheed, Second Secretary

Observer Mission of Palestine to the UN

Commission for Social Development

Vicki Smith, Community & Public Affairs Liaison

Inland Regional Center

Economic Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Mr. John Langmore, Director, International Labour Organization

Economic Commission on Africa

Mr. Nitin Desai,

Under-Secretary-General for Economic

and Social Affairs

DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES & **RELATED ORGANS**

Special Session on Children

Ms. Ana Teresa Romero, Deputy Director

International Labour Organization

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Mr. Jones Kyazze, Director

UNESCO Liaison Office in New York

United Nations Environment Programme

Mr. Pirre Quiblier, Liaison Official

UN Environment Programme, New York Office

Joint Working Group of the United Nations Development Fund for Women And the International Research & Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Ms. Stephanie Urdang, Coordinator, Gender Advisors/Specialists UNIFEM

World Health Organization

Mr. Bowman Olds, Readiness & Response Division

Science Applications International Corporation

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Mr. Joseph Chamie, Director, UN Population Division

DEPARTMENT OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International Organization for Migration

Mr. Charles Vincent, Deputy Director, World Food Programme

Group of 77

Ambassador Kamyab, Representative of the Islamic Republic of

Iran Mission to the UN

Organization of Islamic Conference

Mr. Hamid Abdeljaber, Radio Personality

Chief of Middle East Radio Unit at News & Media Division of the

Dept. of Public Information

Free Trade Agreement of the Americas

Mr. Eric Miller, International Trade Consultant

Inter-American Development Bank

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Major General Thomas Matthews, United States Army Reserve

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

Mr. Saul Landau, Senior Fellow/Lecturer

California State Polytechnic University - Pomona

2003 NMUN CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



"Education not only enriches a culture... it is the first condition for freedom, democracy and sustainable development"

-The Honorable Kofi Annan Theme of the 2003 NMUN

The 2003 NMUN Conference saw over 3,000 students, faculty, and staff come together and participate in the world's largest collegiate Model UN Conference. There were representatives from four continents and nearly 200 colleges and universities.

Center, which provided the opportunity to utilize more conference space and offer simulations of several larger committees including the International Organization of Migration and the Group of 77, in addition to the several plenary size committees traditionally simulated at the NMUN. The new conference facility was easily able to accommodate the conference participants and provided outstanding service throughout the week as we transitioned into using the new facility.

The conference was held at the New York Hilton at Rockefeller

The week began with a capacity crowd for the 2003 NMUN Opening
Ceremonies. The keynote speaker was Dr. Bernard Patry who serves as a member of
the Canadian Parliament and is the Chairman for the Standing Committee on Foreign
Affairs and International Trade. Dr. Patry addressed the group recalling why the
multilateralism embodied by the United Nations is so vitally important to our world.
Midway through the week the annual NMUN Speakers Program commenced with
several notable speakers participating in the program including Dr. Jean Gazarian of
UNITAR, Dr. John Langmore of the ILO, Mr. Joseph Chamie of the UN Population
Division and Mr. Georg Kell the Secretary-General of the Global Compact Initiative.
In 2003 each committee simulated at the NMUN was privileged to have a high level
official with the UN or one of its affiliated organizations address the body.

As tradition of the NMUN dictates the final day of deliberations and the closing ceremonies were held at the UN Headquarters. Delegates were privileged to simulate the General Assembly in the Great Hall of the UN where Heads of State and Representatives have negotiated the resolutions that guide our international community today. The day closed with the highly anticipated awards ceremony and the final knock of the gavel.

The 2003 NMUN was a great success simulating several new committees, having the largest attendance ever, and using a new conference facility. The NCCA and the NMUN staff look forward to building on and continuing the success of the 2003 NMUN.

The Board recognizes Chief of Staff Carrie Krisak, Director-General Aaron Markowitz, and Secretary-General Bret Bergst for their work and leadership.





"This conference gave me the opportunity to meet and work with other students who are passionate about the area of foreign affairs. Also, being one delegation within the committee session has taught me about the importance of working with others to obtain one goal."



FACULTY SESSIONS PROVIDE INSIGHTS & IDEAS

FACULTY SEMINAR ONE

Moderators: Professor Donna Schlagheck, Professor Richard Reitano

This seminar focused on "UN Sanctions and Their Effectiveness" and featured a presentation by Orlando Requeijo Gual, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations. He spoke about Cuban-American relations, the effectiveness of U.S. sanctions, and the need to improve relations between the two nations after 42 years of hostility and crisis.

FACULTY SEMINAR TWO

Discussion Leader: Professor Douglas Becker

This faculty round table discussion addressed issues related to the strategic planning process of the NCCA, the parent body of the NMUN, and its long-term implications for the conference. Board members responded to questions and reaffirmed their commitment to providing access to the United Nations and to offer the best Model UN conference in the nation, including on-site use of the UN, a speakers program involving UN and national diplomats, and a superbly trained Model UN staff. The discussions celebrated the move to the New York Hilton for its additional space and reasserted that more space did not require further increasing the size of the conference or committees.

FACULTY SEMINAR THREE

Moderators: Professor Richard Murgo, Professor Richard Reitano

Panelists: Professors Douglas Becker, Donna Schlagheck, Shelly Williams, Karen

Vogel, and Karen Young

This seminar offered insight on the transition of Model UN clubs and programs to credit-bearing courses. Faculty shared their experiences and their syllabi with other faculty interested in the transformation of club activities into college courses.

DIVERSITY WORKSHOP

Discussion Leader: Professor Karen Young, Chair of the NCCA Diversity Building Scholarship Initiative

This faculty workshop focused on the steps taken by the NCCA Board of Directors to increase the diversity of the Conference.

In addition to these sessions, faculty from community colleges gathered to discuss funding delegations, special problems for delegates who may attend the conference only once, and appropriate curriculum materials for those students taking a Model UN course for credit.

"Times Square and the surrounding areas were the most exciting things that I had ever seen. The speed of life in the city and the diversity of its inhabitants were incredible; I instantly fell in love. When they say that New York is the city that never sleeps, they mean just that. Maybe I've just been sheltered, but that was the first time that I had ever been to a McDonald's at two in the morning; they were still serving McFlurries like it was midday. Fifth Avenue and everything else around that area was intriguing; I would be privileged to go back."

MODEL UN AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

As part of nationwide study on political engagement of American college students, the Carnegie Foundation selected twenty-one courses in 2002 to be part of a three-year study. The Hudson River Group's Model UN course, which Prof. Richard Reitano offers jointly at Dutchess Community College and Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York was the only model UN course and the only course involving a simulation selected by Carnegie. Programs were chosen "based both on the general excellence of these efforts and on the desire to establish a set of courses and programs that represented a range of curricular approaches at different types of educational institutions." Prof. Reitano believes the excellent reputation of the National Model UN simulation was also a factor in the selection process. The study's purpose is to find out what motivates students to become politically involved and how the lessons of these courses can be applied by other colleges and universities. Prof. Reitano presented a paper on the topic at the American Political Science Association meeting in Philadelphia in August 2003 as part of the project.

DELEGATIONS TO THE 2003 NMUN CONFERENCE: Member States of the United Nations

OHNTDV	SCHOOL
OUNTRY fghanistan	Lincoln Land Community College
Ibania	Syracuse University
lgeria	Bellevue Community College
ındorra	Ryan International School
ingola	New Jersey City University
Intigua and Barbuda	Glendon College
Argentina	Université Laval
Armenia	Chapman University
Australia	University of Hawaii – Hilo
Austria	Mount Holyoke College
Azerbaijan	West Virginia University
Bahamas	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Bahrain	University of Vermont
Bangladesh	Brigham Young University
Barbados	Hunter College
Belarus	Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris
Belgium	Ursinus College
Belize Calif	ornia State Polytechnic University – Pomona
Benin Call	Miami-Dade Community College
Benin Bhutan	St. Thomas University
Bolivia	University of Delaware
	California State University – Chico
Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana	Roanoke College
Brazil	Japan Model UN Society
DIdZIL	Loyola University Chicago
Brunei Darussalam	University of Hohenheim
	Université de Sherbrooke
Bulgaria Burkina Faso	Bowling Green State University
	Scottsdale Community College
Burundi Cambodia	Bamberg University
	University of Illinois – Chicago
Cameroon	Berry College
Canada Cape Verde	Alabama A & M
Cape verue	Florida A & M
Central African Republic	Rhodes College
Chad	Mississippi State University
Chile	Goethe University Frankfurt
Colombia	Tennessee State University
	Middle Tennessee State University
Comoros	Marianopolis College
Congo	University of Idaho
Costa Rica	Collège André – Grasset
Côte D'Ivoire	Carleton College
Croatia	Manhattan College
Cuba	University of Macedonia
Cyprus	Victor Valley Community College

COUNTRY	SCHOOL
Democratic People's Republic K	
Denmark	University of Bonn
Djibouti	ARUDMO
Dominica	Universidad del Valle de Mexico
Dominican Republic	Lehman College
L	ong Island University – C.W. Post Campus
Democratic Republic of the Con	
Ecuador	New Mexico State University
Egypt	Albert – Ludwigs – University Freiburg
El Salvador	Pine Manor College
Equatorial Guinea	Westchester Community College
Eritrea	University of Southern Colorado
Estonia	Miami University Middletown
Ethiopia	Skidmore College
Fed. States of Micronesia	Wilkes University
Fiji	George Mason University
	Grant MacEwan College
Finland	Wichita State University
France	Eherhard – Karls – Universität Tübingen
Fmr. Yugoslav Republic	Khabarovsk State Academy
of Macedonia	of Economics and Law
Gabon	Appalachian State University
Gambia	Queens College of NY
Georgia	Baruch College
Germany	Colgate University
Ghana	Albany State University
Greece	German Youth For Understanding
Grenada	University of Cincinnati
Guatemala	University of La Verne
Guinea	Lynchburg College
	Randolph – Macon Woman's College
Guinea Bissau	DLSU – College of Saint Benilde
Guyana	University of Illinois at Springfield
Haiti	Lake Forest College
Honduras	Hardin Simmons University
Hungary	Salem College
Iceland	Mills College
India	University of Denver
Indonesia	Albertson College of Idaho
	Augsburg College
Iran	Tallahassee Community College
Iraq	Ohio University
	University of Applied Sciences Gelsenkirchen
Israel	California State University – Fullerton
Italy	University of Montreal
Jamaica	California State University – Sacramento

DELEGATIONS TO THE 2003 NMUN CONFERENCE: Member States of the United Nations

COUNTRY	SCHOOL
United Kingdom	University of Victoria
United Republic of Tanzania	University of Mississippi
United States of America	American University of Cairo
Uruguay	Benedictine University
Uzbekistan	Valdosta State University
Vanuatu	Schiller International University
Venezuela	Hamline University
Vietnam	Mount Saint Mary's College
Yemen	University of Miami
Yugoslavia	Roberts Wesleyan College
Zambia	Boise State University
Zimbabwe	University of Georgia

PERMANENT OBSERVERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

COUNTRY	SCHOOL
Holy See	University of Catania
Palestine	California State University – Chico

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION	SCHOOL
NGO	
Amnesty International R	iverside Community College
Association of Women in Development	Illinois State University
CARE International	University of Catania
Earth Action	Greensboro College
International Alert	Alma College
International Coalition	Ludwig - Maximilians -
for Development Action	Universitaet Muenchen
International Save the Children	Wright State University
Médecins Sans Frontières	California State University -
International	Fullerton
OXFAM (Oxford Committee for Famine Relief	Hudson River Group
International Federation of Red Cross	Bishop's University
and Red Crescent	
Rotary International	University of Hawaii - Hilo
Solidarity for Africa	Pace University - NYC
World Conservation Union (IUCN)	Pace University - Westchester
Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action	Marianopolis College



"Model UM gives students a chance to think, discuss and act"

– Yoshimitsui Taki, 2003 Head Delegate, Japan Model UN



JAPANESE DELEGATION MARKS 20 YEARS OF PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATION

The Japanese Model United Nations (JMUN) Delegation has made an annual trek to New York City since 1984. The initial formation was guided by Mrs. Sadako Ogata, a professor who went on to be the High Commissioner for Refugees from 1990-2000. The group is comprised of MUN students from many areas of Japan selected through simulations and interviews.

As part of the experience, each year the delegation partners with a university in North America. This year, they joined with Loyola University Chicago – a union that was beneficial for both. The collaboration fostered cooperation with students of different nationalities and cultures as they worked toward common goals. Part of the excitement for both groups was the week-long visit to Chicago by JMUN. Students enjoyed home stays with partner students allowing them to experience each other's cultural differences while preparing to represent Brazil at the 2003 NMUN in New York City.

Professor Kendall Stiles, faculty advisor for Loyola University Chicago said he was pleased with how JMUN "worked closely with us throughout the year — through such issues as country assignment, pairings of delegates and joint position papers carefully and systematically. The assignment of Brazil worked well for the joint delegation, as it gave all of the JMUN students important committee assignments while Loyolans were able to fill out committees either in pairs or alone."

2003 Head Delegate Yoshimitsu Taki cites many highlights to their participation in the conference. Among them are the opportunity to share and build ideas, improve communication skills, and get to know other delegates from all over the world.

Delegation members over the years have learned that while they may approach questions differently, barriers and stereotypes have been broken through this important collaborative work.

The NCCA congratulates Japan Model United Nations on 20 years of participation and building connections among tomorrow's leaders.

RECOGNIZING EXCEPTIONAL EFFORT

Though participation is its own reward, the NCCA recognizes a limited number of delegations a limited number of delegations for their outstanding contributions. Awards are made using criteria for evaluating delegate performance. Each element is equally important to the overall awards determination process. All committees are weighted equally, and delegations are rated on a mathematical formula in relation to the total number of committees represented by the individual Member State or NGO. Criteria include:

- Position papers evaluated on substantive content, writing quality and timely arrival. Position papers illustrate the quality, depth and accuracy of research undertaken by delegates in preparation for the conference.
- Remaining 'in character' defined as advocating your assigned country or Non-Governmental Organization's position in a manner consistent with economic, social and geopolitical constraints.
- Participating in committee evaluated both during formal sessions and caucusing.
- 4. Proper use of the rules of procedure.

OUTSTANDING POSITION PAPER

Mauritius	Alma College
International Alert	Alma College
Russian Federation	Austin College
Sri Lanka	Austin College
Canada	Berry College
Belize	California State Polytechnic
	University - Pomona
Palestine	California State University - Chico
Bosnia and Herzegovina	California State University - Chico
Maldives	California State University - Northridge
Turkey	California State University
	- San Bernardino
Luxembourg	Florida International University
Portugal	Georgia Southern University
OXFAM	Hudson River Group
Fmr. Yugoslav	Khabarovsk State
Republic of Macedonia	Academy of Economics and Law
Mexico Ludwig	- Maximilians - Universitaet - Muenchen
International Coalition	Ludwig - Maximilians
for Development Action	Universitaet - Muenchen
Mozambique	Phillipps - Universitaet Marburg
Amnesty International	Riverside Community College
Costa Rica	University of Idaho
Republic of Korea	University of Magdeburg
United Kingdom	University of Victoria
South Africa	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh
Singapore	Washington State University
Norway	Wright State University
International Save the Children Alliance	Wright State University

OUTSTANDING DELEGATION

International Alert	Alma College
Mauritius	Alma College
Russian Federation	Austin College
Palestine	California State University - Chico
Turkey	California State University - San Bernardino
Luxembourg	Florida International University
Amnesty Internation	nal Riverside Community College
South Africa	University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh

DISTINGUISHED DELEGATION

Sri Lanka	Austin College
Canada	Berry College
Bangladesh	Brigham Young University
Belize	California Polytechnic University
Bosnia and Herzegovina	California State University - Chico
Médecins sans Frontières International	California State University - Fullerton
Israel	California State University - Fullerton
Côte d'Ivoire	College Andre - Grasset
France Ebe	rhard - Karls - Universitaet Tuebingen
Mexico	Ludwig - Maximilians - Universitaet - Muechen
International Coalition for	Ludwig-Maximilians -
Development Action	Universitaet - Muechen
Norway	Wright State University

HONORABLE MENTION

United States of Americ	American University of Cairo				
Syria	Brigham Young University				
Maldives	California State University - Northridge				
Sudan	Pace University - New York				
Tunisia	Pace University - Westchester				
Malawi	Rider University				
Iran	Tallahassee Community College				
Saudi Arabia	University of Colorado - Boulder				
Mali	University of Dayton				
Zimbabwe	University of Georgia				
Italy	University of Montreal				
United Kingdom	University of Victoria				
International Save the Children Alliance	Wright State University				

"I will always remember the committee sessions because they were so intense and the people in them were so passionate and well aware of the issues that were being discussed. I have never seen individuals take so much pride in a country that they were only representing; it was as if they were actually natives and were dealing with some of the issues first-hand."

SAMPLE POSITION PAPER FROM AWARD-WINNING SCHOOL

Delegation from Luxembourg
Represented by Florida International University
POSITION PAPER FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

The issues before the International Organization for Migration are the following: Social Development and Migration Assistance in Afghanistan; Gender and Migration; and Addressing Trafficking in Human Beings.

I. Social Development and Migration Assistance in Afghanistan

Luxembourg recognizes the widening gap between the rich and the poorest countries and emphasizes that the developed world, and particularly the European Union, should increasingly assist developing countries in achieving sustainable development, and take account of the suffering of peoples around the world.

Luxembourg stresses the importance of international assistance and social development in currently fragile Afghanistan not only as a response to humanitarian need, but also for the purposes of international security and conflict resolution. Recognizing the importance of international solidarity and cooperation for progress, Luxembourg reaffirms its commitment expressed in the Bonn Agreement, to assist in bringing about "national reconciliation, lasting peace, stability and respect for human rights in Afghanistan."

Luxembourg recognizes its responsibilities as one of the richest countries of the world. Our development aid exceeds the target rate of 0.7% of GDP set by the United Nations and will reach 1% of GDP by the year 2005. In addition, Luxembourg is, along with other EU members, one of the top donors to the UNAMA program, established by Security Council Resolution 1401 as part of the Afghanistan Transitional Administration (ATA), which serves to coordinate international assistance efforts in support of the transition to peace. Luxembourg also supports and contributes to the Afghanistan Interim Authority Fund, set up to meet the most pressing needs of re-establishing the civil service.

Luxembourg stresses the importance of linking essential humanitarian assistance and crisis responses with sustained development, as emphasized by the Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People (ITAP) in the National Development Framework (NDF) strategy, and encourages all countries to support the large number of initiatives that address the ongoing humanitarian crisis with a combination of emergency and recovery programming, including the Afghanistan Transition Initiative (ATI), the Return of Qualified Afghans (RQA) program, and the Assisted Voluntary Returns (AVR) program. Recognizing the importance of education and professional skills, Luxembourg is one of the top three contributors to UNDP Rapid Deployment Facility in Afghanistan, which serves as a flexible mechanism through which international experts as well as Afghan nationals can serve as UN Volunteers. In conclusion, Luxembourg urges the international community to strengthen and implement their commitment to assist with the rehabilitation recovery and reconstruction of Afghanistan, in order to prevent extended suffering of Afghan peoples and ensure global peace.

II. Gender and Migration

Luxembourg recognizes and respects the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human community, and actively promotes human rights and the participation, without discrimination, of all individuals or groups in the life of society, bearing in mind particularly the role of women. Ever since the adoption of the Constitution in 1868, Luxembourg has emphasized the importance of universal respect and protection of basic rights common to all human beings regardless of their gender and has repeatedly reaffirmed its commitment as a signatory to a large number of international treaties and conventions, including but not limited to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Luxembourg is fully aware of the globalization of the international environment and the increasing need for global unity to face the challenges posed by this process. Luxembourg believes that global problems such as migration, and more specifically female migration, need to be addressed not only at national, but also at regional and international level, and together with its European and global partners aims in helping to define the key components of an effective response to this global challenge. Luxembourg deplores the fact that countless peoples in the world are deprived of their basic social and economic rights, and notes that special attention should be paid to the most vulnerable categories of people, women migrants among them. Migrating women face large numbers of economic, social, legal and medical

obstacles, and Luxembourg implores the international community to cooperate towards their removal. Luxembourg supports the initiatives outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993, which urges all States to guarantee the protection of all migrant workers and their families. Luxembourg further encourages all states to follow the guidelines created by the IOM Working Group on Gender Issues, formalized in the Resolution NO. 932 (LXXI) of the IOM Council in 1995, which affirms universal commitment to provisions of equal opportunity and treatment to both migrant men and women.

Luxembourg is fully committed to ensuring that the needs of all migrants, and especially women, are identified, taken into consideration and addressed in national and international projects and services.

The Luxembourg Ministry for the Advancement of Women is currently undertaking several initiatives towards ensuring gender equality and effective respect for human rights regardless of citizenship, and Luxembourg's ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Member of Their Families is envisaged as soon as appropriate legislation has been adopted. In conclusion, Luxembourg urges all states to cooperate in order to ensure that all people, regardless of their nationality, are provided with equal opportunities to develop and utilize their skills and participate in decisions affecting their lives.

III. Addressing Trafficking in Human Beings

In accordance with the Declaration of Human Rights, Luxembourg remains committed to the protection of human rights in the global community. Luxembourg feels that the government of any nation should act as an instrument of the people, and it should protect the fundamental rights of people regardless of their gender or nationality. Human rights violations, particularly the trafficking of human beings, have become a global phenomenon that can occur in any nation at any given time. Due to the transient nature of the trafficking of human beings, all nations are susceptible to its effects within their borders. A problem of this magnitude can only be combated through mutual cooperation among nation-states.

Transnational organized crime groups victimize migrants through the practice of trafficking human beings for the purpose of exploitation. The exploitation of migrants has become a highly profitable activity for transnational organized crime groups across the globe that exposes unsuspecting migrants to forced labor, involuntary servitude, and sexual exploitation. Luxembourg fully supports the objective of the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, started in March 1999, to assist member states in their fight against the illegal practice of trafficking of human beings. Luxembourg recognizes the importance of all international endeavors that have sought to eliminate the trafficking of human beings. Luxembourg has signed the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children as well as the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The UN Millennium General Assembly adopted these protocols that were drafted as a result of the International Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on November 15th, 2000.

Luxembourg has immersed itself in the struggle against the trafficking of human beings. As a destination for smuggling activities, Luxembourg has vested interest in eliminating the trafficking of human beings. In recent years, the trafficking of women for the purposes of sexual exploitation has increasingly become a problem in Luxembourg. As a result, Luxembourg's domestic law has been adjusted in accordance with international law to deal more efficiently with this problem. Under the new legislation, any individuals arrested for the trafficking of human beings are subject to 5 years of imprisonment under the penal code. Luxembourg urges other nations to adopt similar domestic laws that would punish the leaders of these transnational organized crime groups that specialize in trafficking. It is only through the enforcement of laws against the trafficking of human beings that the number of human rights violations against migrants will begin to subside. Luxembourg feels that through mutual cooperation among nation-states this crime can be reduced significantly, if not eliminated, from the global community.

This example of a position paper, reprinted with permission, was submitted by Alex Alonso and Marika Krausova of Florida International University for the 2003 Conference. Their school was one of the recipients of an overall Outstanding Position Papers Award.

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G-77

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EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Dear Colleagues, Friends & Supporters:

The National Collegiate Conference Association prepares college students to be better global citizens. These experiences are valuable for student delegates and faculty advisors. However, financial constraints often are a barrier to participation for both student participants and volunteer staff members.

To expand the opportunity provided by NMUN participation, the NCCA solicits funding from foundations as well as individuals. We invite you to consider making a personal contribution to the NCCA. For U.S. residents, your donation is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. The NCCA is a 501C3 nonprofit organization and an official Non-Governmental Organization of the United Nations.

Donors will be listed in the National Model UN conference program and the NCCA annual report.

All of your donation will be used toward financing student or staff participation in the National Model UN. We appreciate unrestricted donations to allow us to best allocate resources, but we also respect that you may wish to designate your donation to either (1) Diversity-Building Scholarships or (2) Volunteer Staff Participation.

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NCCA attn: Michael Eaton 3489 Valento Circle St. Paul, MN 55127-7171

Enclosed is my donation of:	D .	\$ \$ 50					
\$1,000 \$ 500	\$ 250	\$	_ (other)				
Please designate my donati	on to:						
	Diversity-Building Scholarship Initiative						
	☐ Volunteer St	aff Participation					
	Use Where A	Nost Needed					
			. sunds as determined	bν			

The Board will allocate 100% of all undesignated donations between these funds as determined by need and funding levels. A receipt will be sent to you for your records. **Thank you for your support** of our programs and mission.



Volunteer Staff of the 2003 NMUN

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"I gained new respect for the
work that goes on in the
United Nations. Having so
many people work together to
come to a compromise on an
issue that affects all the
people in the world is truly a
wonderful thing."

- 2003 Model UN Delegate

MODEL UN IN THE NEWS -

MODEL UN STUDENTS TO REPRESENT BENIN AT SESSION

MDCC NEWS is compiled by the media relations department of Miami-Dade Community College. Reprinted with permission. First printed 23 March 2003 in the Miami Herald.

Students in Miami-Dade Community College's National Model United Nations Delegation spoke by telephone conference with representatives of the Republic of Benin on Wednesday in preparation for an international mock UN session.

The National Model United Nations, which works to further the understanding of the United Nations and contemporary international problems, will host more than 2,600 college students and faculty at its annual conference April 15-19 in New York City. Each college or university invited to attend is assigned a nation they must research and represent at the conference. MDCC students will represent Benin, a western African nation.

''We've been invited back more than any other community college because of our past performance,'' said co-faculty advisor Michael Lenaghan. ``It's a great honor because only a handful of community colleges get to attend.''

Wednesday's meeting was an opportunity for MDCC's delegates to prepare for the conference by comparing the research they have done with what real Beninese delegates to the UN believe. The economic, social and political issues they covered during the call included obstacles to economic and technological growth, HIV policies, peacekeeping forces in Africa and curbing the trafficking in human beings.

In past years, model United Nations organizers have been surprised to find that MDCC delegates come from such varied heritages and sometimes even have military experience. For instance, this year's MDCC delegates speak several languages, including Arabic, Urdu, Creole, Tamil, Spanish, and, of course, English. But this was the first year the delegation did not have a fluent speaker of French, the official language of Benin. Two students from MDCC's Honors College -- Griselle Gaudnick and Annerose Muyombano -- stepped in to help translate at the meeting Wednesday.

''I didn't know it would be this interesting or I would have joined the delegation already,'' said Muyombano, a German citizen born in Burundi, Africa.

All 17 of MDCC's student delegates, who come from 14 countries, will attend the conference at the New York Hilton Hotel at Rockefeller Center; the opening ceremonies and the closing session are traditionally held at the United Nations Headquarters.

The delegation representing Benin comprises Miguel Arroyo, of Chilean heritage; Andrew Carbon, Dominica; Deborah Cruz and Neidy Marcelo, the Dominican Republic; Akram Elfeki, Egypt; Venus Felixis, Peru; Pamela Frost, Argentina; Melissa Garcia, Columbia; Vanessa Gonzalez, of Ecuadorian/Columbian/America; Muhammed Halim, Bangladesh; Guerlie Laurent, Haiti; Yolanda McCollister, Alexandra Salvador and Harold Silva, Cuba-America; Claudia Villalta, of Nicaraguan heritage; and Daniel Sinto, America.