



Model United Nations of Alaska 2010

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Dear Delegates,

Welcome from the Secretariat of the 28th Annual 2010 Model United Nations of Alaska (MUN) conference to be held on the grounds of the University of Alaska Anchorage February 25, 26, 27, 2010. It is my pleasure to preside as this year's Secretary General for the Model UN. I have been involved with the MUN program for just two short years. But in those few years, I have witnessed exponential growth on the part of high school students during the two and a half day conference. The MUN program offers experiential learning that promotes the growth and development of students. They learn about citizenship, negotiating with peers, working in committees, public speaking, legislation writing and character development. I cannot think of another program offered by the University of Alaska Anchorage that has as significant an impact on future students and future leaders as the Model United Nations of Alaska program.

This year's topic of Technology: Solutions for the Future is as relevant for Alaska, as it is for the world as a whole. Technology can be anything as simple as a foil covered cook stove used in Darfur, to an earth-base satellite station bringing communications to bush Alaska. The committees selected for the 2010 conference are: UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UN Development Program (UNDP), UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Security Council and the World Bank. Although the World Bank is not a committee of the United Nations, it represents a vital link between accessible financial assets and the financial need of developing countries working towards a better life.

“We all live in a more and more globalized world. The borders between nations vanish and meanwhile the transnational integration of different regions of the world grows. The global political system of our time is more complex than ever before. Assuming responsibility in politics, economy and society means assuming responsibility for this world. Therefore it is extremely important for young people to learn at an early stage to take on responsibility, to develop political solutions jointly in a dialogue process and to understand the positions and interest of other states.”*

Model United Nations is a program that is continuing to grow and change at UAA. While working to encourage high school and college students to participate and attend (or continue attending) UAA, the students of MUN Alaska also work hard to learn more about the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, and international issues, in an effort to continually improve the program.

For more information about the topic and MUN, please visit our website at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/modelun/>. New material and links will be posted regularly to assist the students in researching their countries, committees and the topic. If there are any questions, contact Professor Kimberly Pace, UAA Faculty Director or elina satterfield, the Administrative Assistant for the Political Science Department.

I look forward to meeting all of you in February.

Sincerely,

Sean McGrane
Secretary General 2010

*http://www.muimun.org/muimun_the_rector.html