

A Note From The Coordinators

We would like to thank you for your participation in the 2009 Washington Model OAS. In the interests of ensuring an efficient and rewarding Model for faculty and students alike, we would like to discuss a variety of topics. In 2009 we are operating at a new facility with many new teams. We hope this will be a helpful note, but please feel free to ask questions of the coordinators, Doug Friedman and Joan Andorfer, at any time. During the Model, we can usually be found at Imperial II, the Model's "office" at the hotel.

REGISTRATION:

This note will follow the outline of the schedule of events, beginning with opening day, Tuesday, 7 April. Registration will be held from 2-3 pm and requires the head delegates from each team to collect a packet of information and nametags. Therefore, it is essential that you submit your list of delegates, per committee, to Doug Friedman, as soon as possible if you have not already done so. (friedmand@cofc.edu) We do not have the capacity of printing name tags at the Model. If Doug does not receive your roster by Monday, March 30, you will receive handwritten badges. If there are errors on name tags, which we try hard to avoid, please have your delegates see Doug on Wednesday at Imperial II. Delegates must wear their name tags to all official functions and this is particularly the case for admittance to the OAS building.

It is essential that delegates remain on the ground floor during registration as there is another function in the Hall of the Americas preceding our opening session.

OPENING SESSION:

The mock session, which follows the opening remarks, allows delegates to see how committee sessions will be conducted. At the WMOAS website (www.wmoas.org), the mock debate resolution has been posted. The General Committee will "debate" this resolution and so **every member of the General Committee should come with a copy of the mock resolution.**

After the Opening session, will have the opportunity to meet the other members of their committee and committee officers. This is also an opportunity for delegates to seek out signatures for their resolutions. Each delegate must have five signatures, other than the sponsors/co-sponsors, before the resolution will be accepted and debated by the committee. This also applies to resolutions which were electronically submitted to, and approved by, faculty reviewers. Those delegates with electronically approved resolutions must gain the five signatures for the resolution to be debated, despite the fact that their resolution is already in the first packet. The delegate must submit a signature copy to the Rapporteur of their committee at 1:00 pm on Wednesday. If this is not submitted, the resolution will not be debated.

An important note here is **that every delegate must print a copy of the first packet** for their committee **before arriving at the Model.** We will not have copies available in Washington D.C.

INFORMAL FACULTY SOCIAL:

Arrangements are still in process for an informal faculty social, most likely at the hotel bar. In years past, we have found this a wonderful opportunity to meet new faculty and resume friendships with our colleagues. We regret that the budget does not allow us to treat you all for all your efforts in making the Model a success. Nevertheless, we hope that

you will make an effort to join us for a libation at the beginning of what will be a very hectic and rewarding week.

MISSION BRIEFINGS:

If you have not already done so, please schedule the mission briefing with your embassy for Wednesday morning. The OAS Secretariat for External Affairs was gracious in sending out letters to every mission asking them to identify a staff member to conduct this briefing. You can find contact information on each mission at: www.oas.org The mission may invite you to their embassy or want to meet at the OAS building. Every mission has been very accommodating for all the years this Model has been in existence. As a measure of our appreciation, please do invite the staff to attend the student dessert social on Wednesday evening, discussed below. Many delegations also take small tokens of appreciation to the mission staff for the briefing and the generous gifts of their time and expertise.

SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEES:

Unlike previous years, we will have three committees meeting at any given time with the other two committees in caucus. The committees will rotate from session to caucus according to the schedule presented in the draft schedule. We are aware that this initially adds an element of confusion to the proceedings, but it is nearly impossible to get 5 meeting rooms at the same place to accommodate 70 or more people in Washington D.C. Please bear with us as we try to adapt to this new rotation and impress on your delegates that, other than lunch time, they really should be in the room designated for their committee caucus. Therefore, you will note that no time is devoted to lunch as in years past. We are assuming that delegates will be treating themselves to lunch either before 1:15 each day or after 1:30 p.m. The hotel will be providing a “local attractions” packet upon check-in and there are many fine establishments in the neighborhood for meals. Also, Georgetown is four blocks away with a variety of entertainments for students of all ages.

In terms of the submission of resolutions, students will have the opportunity to submit, or resubmit, resolutions at two occasions once at the Model. These opportunities are on Wednesday at 4:30 and on Thursday at 1:30. If resolutions are returned by the Faculty Review Committee to be revised, delegates must submit the new version with the one returned to them. In this way, the reviewers can more easily assess the revised resolution.

FACULTY REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS:

The following is a list of faculty who are asked to serve as reviewers. We welcome and strongly encourage all faculty to attend and help out at these sessions, particularly new faculty. This is an excellent way to “learn the ropes” of how to craft successful resolutions. The reviewers are as follows:

General Committee: Stuart Voss, Luz Matus-Mendoza, Joan Supplee

First Committee: Wayne Magnusson, Mark Sachleben, Catherine Pereira

Second Committee: Bob Bromber, Ronn Pinneo, Silvia Byers, Andrew Schlewitz

Third Committee: Roberto Wagner, Edith Wolfe, Guy Shroyer, Ben Arnold

Fourth Committee: Bob Trudeau, Leonor Blum, Nestor Ruiz

We would like to thank each of you for your service, which is invaluable for the success of the Model, and we would like to encourage all faculty to join these colleagues at Imperial II during the review sessions.

STUDENT SOCIAL:

At our new hotel, the Fairmont, we are required to spend a fair amount of money on food and beverage as a part of our contract. We decided, faced with a limited budget and increased costs such as this, to have a student dessert social at the hotel Wednesday evening. The attire is “business casual” and we hope you will strongly encourage your delegates to attend. It is an opportunity for them to socialize with all delegates and understand that diplomats attend many social functions. We will also ask that once delegates leave the social at Ballrooms I and II, they understand that they will not be readmitted. In years past, we have unpleasant episodes of delegates “fortifying” their soft drinks and other interesting behaviors. We would like this to resemble a diplomatic social, not Spring Break at Daytona Beach. Thanks for helping us in this effort.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:

All students will be required to sign a “Code of Conduct” form at the Model. Head Delegates will be responsible for turning in the signed forms for their delegations to the Rapporteur. Delegations will not be seated without submission of the “Code of Conduct” forms.

We seldom have issues with conduct during the official sessions of the Model. Where we do often run into problems is “after hours”. While students are free to socialize, we ask that the following rules be observed:

- No running or making loud noises in the hotel hallways.
- No partying in the hallways or large groups in one room.
- No frequent travel among hotel rooms which disturbs other guests.
- Please be discreet in carrying in food or beverage from other establishments.
- Please check out on time (1pm).

The delegates may not realize that we have not completely taken over this hotel and that there are other non-college age guests staying at the Fairmount. They enjoy their privacy and some measure of peace and quiet in the evenings. We really do not want to receive phone calls about disruptive student behavior at this hotel. We will not be invited back if the hotel determines we are not their kind of customer. That will mean this model will be held outside the District in future years as no other hotel has the meeting space to accommodate such a large group with such specific needs.

Please do encourage your students to socialize outside the hotel as long as they are not going out alone. As mentioned previously, the attractions of Georgetown are not far away and the “watering holes” for George Washington University are also close by.

FINALLY...

Thank you for your patience as we have worked through a new schedule and a new hotel. We are still trying to finalize the guest speakers and will notify you as soon as we know. We look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new colleagues.

Joan Andorfer and Doug Friedman

Checklist of Tasks to Complete Before Arriving at the Model:

1. Each delegate prints a copy of the first packet for their committee at www.wmaos.org
2. General Committee members print a copy of the “Mock Resolution” to be debated at the opening session.
3. Faculty and students sign up for the “President’s Club” if staying at the Fairmont Hotel (www.fairmont.com) to receive free internet access and other hotel amenities.
4. Arrange your mission briefing for Wednesday morning.
5. Submit list of delegates by committee to Doug Friedman (friedmand@cofc.edu) as soon as possible to ensure nametags.