



TOWSON UNIVERSITY
BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2026

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Golemboski

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome.....	<u>2</u>
Deadlines.....	<u>2</u>
Description of Scheduled Events.....	<u>3-4</u>
Conference Statements.....	<u>5-12</u>
Research, Resource, and Preparation Guide.....	<u>13-17</u>
Towson University Professor Contact/Subject List.....	<u>17-18</u>
Oral Presentation Guide.....	<u>19-21</u>
Conference Rules and Procedures.....	<u>22-28</u>
Participating Schools and Committee Overview.....	<u>29</u>
Schools/Country Assignments.....	<u>29-32</u>
Committee Lists.....	<u>32-35</u>
Conference Organizers' Contact Information.....	<u>36</u>

WELCOME TO THE 2026 MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE!

We extend a warm welcome to our BCPS and non-BCPS students who are participating in this year's conference! We are pleased that you have chosen to participate and hope that you find it a valuable learning experience.

The United Nations is at the center of much debate about vital international issues. We hope that you learn much about your country, international relations, and the United Nations and enjoy role-playing in these debates.

This booklet introduces you to the Model UN conference, co-sponsored by Baltimore County Public Schools Office of Social Studies and supported by the Towson University BTU program, TU Department of Political Science, and TU International Studies Program. Please read it carefully. Please see our website for more information: tumodelun.org

Thank you all for coming and taking the time and effort to prepare. We look forward to a successful conference!

Mr. Hugh Kearney
Carver Center for the Arts
Model United Nations Co-Chair

Dr. Alison Rios Millet McCartney
Towson University
Model United Nations Co-Chair

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

January 9, 2026 - Deadline for teachers to report country/committee assignments. Instructions for upload will be emailed.

January 2026 - March 2026 - As available -Baltimore County/City only - Visits with Towson University student "coaches" to participating schools (when requested) to help delegates prepare for the conference. TU students will contact each school to set dates/times.

February 13, 2026 5:00 PM- Deadline for receipt of Preliminary Statements, Position Papers. Teachers please upload files to the cloud folder shared privately.

February 20, 2026 - Deadline for individual withdrawal from the conference. Teachers should immediately notify Michele Calderon via email (mcalderson@towson.edu).

[Back to the top](#)

DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED EVENTS

WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS: After an introduction by one of the conference co-chairs, Dr. Christopher Chulos, Dean of the TU College of Liberal Arts will provide the conference opening Welcome. Then, this year's Keynote Speaker (see tumodelun.org for details) will give an address on an international relations topic. All delegates must be present and will be given the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPENING: All delegates must be on time. The Secretaries-General will have a roll call of all delegates. Those not present when their name and country are called will not be able to participate in these sessions.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS: During these sessions, delegates will debate issues and proposals. See the "Rules" section below and the "[Delegates Quick Guide](#)" to learn proper parliamentary procedure. Delegates will use the Official Conference Message papers to send messages to other delegations, the Secretary-General, and teachers. All messages will be collected, read, and delivered by MUN runners. Secretaries will call on countries to speak and will be responsible for calling votes, including the closing motion for each session. Out of respect for the delegations who are talking, please keep talking to a minimum and use the Message papers to communicate. Delegates who are disorderly or disruptive to the conference will be asked to leave. Delegates may briefly step out for restroom visits only.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Each country can send only one delegate to each committee meeting that they have been preassigned. The chair for committee meetings will be a Towson University professor, alumnus, graduate student, or advanced student, and they are responsible for the conduct of this session. Delegates may not switch committees before or during this session. In the case where there is only one delegate for that country, the delegate can choose in advance by informing their teacher of which committee they wish to attend.

FINAL RESOLUTION PRESENTATION AND VOTING PERIOD: During this period, delegates may present final resolutions that they wish to be considered for approval by the General Assembly or final resolutions against a proposal/idea. To speak, follow the same procedures as for the other sessions (see [Delegate Quick Guide](#)). Each country is allowed one vote in all matters. If a delegation votes more than once, its vote will be disqualified.

[Back to the top](#)

CAUCUS SESSIONS: During unmoderated caucus sessions, delegates can informally speak with each other in order to discuss issues and resolutions and attempt to gain/dissuade support. These discussions will be monitored by teachers and the Secretariat. Discussions must be limited to conference business only. This is the only time that delegates are allowed to leave their seats to talk with delegates from other countries.

During moderated caucus sessions, delegates should raise their placards and wait to be recognized by the Secretariat to speak. Comments should remain brief and include asking a question of another delegation or responding to a question or comment of another delegation.

DE-BRIEFING AND EVALUATION PERIOD: When the formal part of the conference is ended, delegates will be asked to complete questionnaires about their experience and the conference and to vote for award categories. If time allows, we will discuss or de-brief delegates on how things were/were not accomplished in the conference.

CLOSING REMARKS: This address will be given by the conference co-chairs and will signify the end of the conference.

BREAKS: During all breaks, delegates **may not** leave campus or the building where their session is being held for any reason. Breaks are to be used for restroom visits and discussion between teams.

[Back to the top](#)

CONFERENCE STATEMENTS

PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS

A preliminary statement defines your country's general goals relative to the conference scenario. It is, in essence, an agenda-setting tool. Your statement should be about 5-8 sentences long and should take no more than 45 seconds to read. It should include the following:

1. Begin with a statement of greeting to the other delegations (can be in the country's main language) (1 sentence)
2. State how the conference scenario impacts the global community from your country's perspective (1 sentence)
3. State how the conference scenario impacts countries with similar issues and problems as yours (i.e. geographic, economic, or cultural) and briefly introduces your country's resolution to the problem.) (1 sentence)
4. State your country's goal at the conference and the general idea on how the conference may address the problem. Provide a brief overview of the third body paragraph from your position paper (1-2 sentences).

Position Papers (adapted from the [UNA-USA website](#))

This conference requires that each delegation submit a policy statement -- information outlining each delegation's policies and proposed solutions to the conference scenario. The policy statement helps delegates organize their ideas and share their foreign policy objectives with the other delegations. These statements are due **to your teacher one week before** the conference.

Position Papers can be presented in one the following formats:

1. Written Policy Statement: Should be no longer than 2 pages and should contain a brief introduction and a comprehensive breakdown on your country's perspective on the conference scenario.
2. Recorded Policy Statement: You can record a video of yourself and your partner discussing your country's perspective on the conference scenario. Videos should be 2 minutes or less.
3. Multi-Modal Policy Statement: You can create a slide-show, video, or other visual presentation of your country's stance on the conference scenario. Videos should be 2 minutes or less, and slide-shows should include 10 or fewer slides.

Awards will be given for Best Written Policy Statement, Best Recorded Policy Statement, and Best Multi-Modal Policy Statement. The Secretariat strongly encourages delegates to consider submitting their Position Papers in either the written, recorded, or multi-modal formats to express their creativity and convey their country's perspective.

[Back to the top](#)

Specifics guidelines for each format include:

Written Policy Statement:

- Less than 2 pages in length, single spaced, less than 1600 words
- Times New Roman, 12 point font
- Word count in footer of paper
- 1" inch margins

Recorded Policy Statement:

- 2 minutes or less
- Filmed horizontally – speaker must be the main focus of the video
- The speaker is fully audible with no background noise
- May not include any visuals that are discriminatory to any countries, ethnic, racial, or gender identity groups (ex: use of swastikas)
- It is strongly suggested that positive symbols from that country (flags, national monuments or other sources of culture and pride) be incorporated

Multi-Modal Policy Statement

- 2 minutes or less
- Includes an audible voice-recording to explain the presentation
- Utilizes an approved method (Powerpoint, Prezi, Google Slides, etc)
- May not include any visuals that are discriminatory to any countries, ethnic, racial, or gender identity groups (ex: use of swastikas)
- It is strongly suggested that positive symbols from that country (flags, national monuments or other sources of culture and pride) be incorporated

The information in all three formats should include:

- a clear statement of policy on each topic;
- the country's background on the topic, including;
- political and/or foreign policy
- action(s) taken by the specific government in relation to the topic
- conventions, treaties, and resolutions that the country has approved related to the topic
- quotes taken from speeches made by heads of government
- the type of resolution the country hopes to sponsor or approve
- accurate citations

***Note: teachers will receive judging rubrics in advance of the conference

[Back to the top](#)

Sample Policy Statement

Sweden

As we march into the new millennium it has become increasingly evident that it is not only wise, but necessary, for the world to reflect on the past hundred years. Things have changed rapidly in that time: socially we are more peaceful, economically we are richer, and mentally we are more aware. And with the year 2000 now behind us, the time has come that we put these developing traits to use and look towards the thing that should concern us the most: the future. As a developed country, Sweden has always felt the need to plan for the imminent years to come. Sweden has made great strides in developing an environmentally conscientious economy that is both beneficial and productive. As of now, most activities relate to "eco-labeling" of products and services: the largest, most necessary step to be taken. As a nation, the people of Sweden wish to work towards the common goal of global sustainable development and pledge "to apply themselves whole-heartedly to the task."

I. Combating the Deterioration of our Atmosphere

For more than a decade, leading scientists the world over have ranked the problem of outdoor air pollution as one of the highest risk health problems in the global community. Yet despite such conferences as the 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, the 1987 Montreal Protocol, and the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the atmosphere is still being exploited and abused at an incredible rate. Every human life in developed countries is shortened an estimated five months simply because of the pollutants that are spewed into our air daily, not to mention the hundreds of direct - and countless indirect - effects that air pollution has on our ecosystem. As a nation deeply concerned about such issues, the country of Sweden feels that strong precautions must be made to preserve the natural state of our already altered atmosphere.

Recognizing that many nations would choose to remain dubious on such issues, Sweden fully supports the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and urges all national governments and UN bodies to delegate the financial support necessary to begin mapping a comprehensive collaboration of the health of our planet. Since such information will undoubtedly take a number of years to gather, Sweden also proposes the immediate switch of all countries to an emphasis on pollution prevention rather than pollution cleanup. Sweden also supports a universal time table to be set up for the phasing out and reduction of such emissions as sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide, ozone, carbon monoxide, CFC's, PAN's and other environmentally detrimental gasses. Sweden urges for such a reduction to be done on both a national and local level by improving energy efficiency, reducing the use of fossil fuels, increasing the use of renewable energy, slowing drastic population growth, incorporating air, water, and land pollution policies, and phasing in full-cost pricing and so called "green taxes" based on the "polluters pay" principle.

RESOLUTIONS

with some adaptations from the [UNA-USA website](#)

Actions of the United Nations are expressed in resolutions submitted in draft form under the sponsorship of one or more delegations. Resolutions may simply register an opinion or may recommend action to be taken by a UN organ or related agency. Only the Security Council may take "decisions" which bind Member States to a military action.

When drafting and sponsoring a draft resolution, delegates should keep in mind that the wording will influence its appeal (or lack thereof). The draft resolution should be clear, concise, and specific. The substance should be well researched and reflect the character and interests of the sponsoring countries.

United Nations resolutions follow a common format. Each resolution has three parts: the heading, the preamble, and the operative section. It is one long sentence with commas and semicolons throughout the resolution and with a period at the very end. The first word in each clause should be underlined, and each clause in the preamble should end with a comma. All operative clauses end with a semicolon except the final clause, which ends with a period.

Sponsors and Signatories:

Sponsors of a resolution are those countries that have been the principal authors of the document and agree with its substance. *Signatories* are countries that may or may not agree with the substance of the resolution but would like to see it debated on the floor. Please list sponsors at the top of the Resolution and Signatories at the end of the Resolution.

[Back to the top](#)

I. The Draft Resolution

HEADING

Committee: i.e. the committee or organ in which the resolution is introduced

Topic: the topic of the resolution

Sponsored by: list of sponsoring countries, with authoring countries first and then other sponsors in alphabetical order

Signatories: list countries in alphabetical order

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the preamble is to show that there is a problem that needs to be solved. The preamble of a resolution does everything but propose action or make any substantive statement in the topic at hand. The preamble begins with the name of one of the three major organs. The preambulatory clauses can include:

- * References to the UN Charter;
- * Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties that been ratified under the topic of discussion;
- * Statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;
- * Recognition of the work or efforts of regional organizations in dealing with the issue; and
- * General statements on the topic, its significance, and its effects.

Preambulatory Phrases:

Acknowledging ...	Affirming ...	Alarmed ...	Anxious ...	Approving ...
Aware ...	Bearing in mind ...	Being convinced ...	Believing ...	Cognizant ...
Concerned ...	Confident ...	Conscious ...	Considering ...	Contemplating ...
Convinced ...	Declaring ...	Deeply disturbed...	Desiring ...	Determined ...
Emphasizing ...	Encouraged ...	Endorsing ..		
Expressing ...	...appreciation.....	deep appreciation...	Expecting ...	Fulfilling ...
Fully	aware	believing.....	bearing in mind...	Grieved...
				Guided by...
Having	adopted.....	approved.....	considered.....	examined further.....
				received.....
				reviewed...
Keeping in mind...	Mindful...			
Noting...	further...	with approval....	with concern...	with deep concern...
				with grave concern...
				with regret...
	...with satisfaction...			
Observing...	Reaffirming...	Realizing...	Recalling...	Recognizing...
Referring...	Regretting...	Reiterating...	Seeking...	Stressing...
Welcoming...				

Operative Clauses:

Operative clauses are set out to achieve the country's main policy goals on the topic. Each operative clause begins with a number, ends with a semicolon and the final clause ends with a period. Operative clauses should be organized in a logical progression, and each clause should contain a single idea or policy proposal. Keep in mind that all resolutions except the Security Council are non-binding.

Accepts... Adopts... Affirms... Appeals... Appreciates... Approves...
Authorizes... Calls upon... Commends... Concurs... Condemns... Confirms...
Congratulates... Considers... Decides.....accordingly... Declares... Deplores...
Designates... Directs... Emphasizes... Encourages... Endorses...
Expressing...its appreciation....its conviction....its regret...its sympathy...its thanks...the
belief...the hope..
Further...concurs...invites....proclaims.....reminds.....recommends.....requests.....resolves...
Instructs... Invites... Notes...with appreciation..with approval....with interest....with
satisfaction..
Reaffirms.....its belief... Recognizes... Recommends... Regrets... Reiterates...
Renews its appeal Repeats... Suggests... Strongly... Supports... Takes note
of..
Transmits... Urges... Welcomes...

[Back to the top](#)

II. Sample Resolution

Committee: General Assembly

Subject: Strengthening UN Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance

Sponsors: United States, Austria, Italy

Signatories: Greece, Japan, Canada, Mali, The Netherlands, Costa Rica, Belgium, United Kingdom, India, and Gabon

The General Assembly Reminding all nations of the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality, and inalienable rights of all global citizens,

USE COMMAS TO SEPARATE PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES & UNDERLINE THE FIRST WORD OR PHRASE

Reaffirming resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages governments to work with established UN bodies aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and Non-Governmental Organizations,

1. Encourages all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the grassroots level to enhance the carryout of relief efforts;

USE SEMICOLONS TO SEPARATE OPERATIVE CLAUSES & UNDERLINE THE FIRST WORD OR PHRASE

2. Urges member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline efforts of humanitarian aid;

3. Requests that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;

4. Calls for the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donation from the private transnational sector to aid in the funding of rapid deployment forces.

END RESOLUTION WITH A PERIOD

[Back to the top](#)

Amendments

During the course of negotiation and cooperation, draft resolutions will alter through changes known as amendments. The guidelines for these amendments are less strict since many arise during the course of the activity itself: however, the style, wording and intent of the amendment should complement the original draft resolution. Amendments follow the pattern already stated in the document and simply present new viewpoints or suggestions for action on the same topic. In other words, they augment the existing resolution.

Sample of an amendment

Committee: General Assembly

Subject: Strengthening UN Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance

Sponsors: France, Romania, and Poland

Signatories: Togo, Australia, Fiji, Brazil, St. Lucia, Viet Nam, New Zealand, Pakistan, Kuwait and Argentina

Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post conflict assistance through reconstruction and development

[Back to the top](#)

RESEARCH, RESOURCE, AND PREPARATION GUIDE

***STARTING AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH** (with some adaptation from the [UNA-USA website](#))

The first part in preparing for the Model UN experience is to conduct extensive research. It is important to remember that a delegate's goal is to faithfully represent her/his country, be knowledgeable of the topic at hand, and know about the UN system. (UNA-USA has compiled a list of web resources for Model UN participants located [here](#))

Research is usually broken down into three parts: country information, the topics at hand, and general UN information. Of course, the general goal is to weave this information together and realistically portray the country that has been assigned to a specific delegate.

When gathering information delegates should research the following:

1. Delegates need to learn enough about their country so they may respond to the issues raised at the conference just as a real delegate from that country would respond at the United Nations. Delegates must learn general information about the country they are representing: its political structure, history, culture(s), geography, people, infrastructure, economics, transnational issues and the country's allies and enemies in the world and to what formal organizations it belongs, such as "OAS," "AU," "EU," "APEC," "OECD," "OPEC," etc. Some sources to find out country information include:

A. News and media sources particularly focusing on the specific country that is being represented and UN activities throughout the world.

B. The country's permanent mission at the UN MUN delegates can find information on the Internet at www.embassy.org. Delegates can also call the missions directly, ask them to send them its position statements on the issues or even ask specific questions to find out how a particular country reacts to an issue.

C. Delegates can look at the U.S. State department country reports or call the U.S. State department desk officer for the country and pick the secretary's brain about the country's relationships with the U.S. as well as pretty much anything else related to that country and the issues being discussed at the conference. Background notes on each country can be found at www.state.gov/countries/. Another great source of information is the CIA factbook, which is

available online at www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html. Here delegates can find a lot of general information such as statistics etc.

D. The United Nations Web site has an abundance of information including actual speeches and country voting records – www.un.org

E. General Internet searches. UNA-USA has compiled a list of Internet sources to help facilitate country research.

2. Next delegates should research the topic at hand. Many conferences send out background materials called background guides, or issue summaries, which are intended to jumpstart a delegate's research. In many cases, these materials come with bibliographies and questions to consider attached. These provide great starting points for research on the issues. Delegates should further research the general information on the topic, the country's position about the topic, actions taken to combat the problem, stances of other countries, blocs, etc. Great areas to look for information include:

A. News and Media sources. Delegates should consult the news and media sources listed in the packet under Research Resources. UNA-USA has compiled links to some of the most popular periodicals.

B. The United Nations web site. The UN Economic and Social section has a great index to some of the most popular topics. In addition, through the United Nations Documentation Center you can find resolutions and voting records from the current and previous years.

C. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), such as Amnesty International, have a decent amount of background information and in many cases great internet links to further sources of research. A list of many is provided in the packet under Research Resources.

D. Policy centers of universities. Many topics, especially human rights, have professors and graduate students who are constantly conducting research. See the list in this packet under Research Resources.

3. Delegates should not forget learning about the UN In many cases this is the area of research that is overlooked. It is important for delegates to learn how the organ/agency that they are in operates, know the UN Charter, recent UN actions on the issue, conferences that have been held, statements by UN officials etc. The UN website www.un.org is the best resource to find this information. The UN also publishes many books about the specific topics, and general UN information, which can be purchased via their website. If a delegate is in NYC it is possible to

even set up a briefing with a UN secretariat member, this can be done by calling the Department of Public Inquiries at (212) 963-7710.

[Back to the top](#)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

United Nations main web page -- www.un.org

- links to everything involving the UN, such as General Assembly Resolutions, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council
- UN Peacekeeping Missions -- <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en>
- International Atomic Energy Agency -- www.iaea.org
- International Court of Justice -- <https://www.icj-cij.org/en>
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) -- www.imf.org
- Organization of the Oil Producing Countries (OPEC) -- www.opec.org
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) www.oecd.org
- World Bank -- www.worldbank.org
- World Health Organization: -- www.who.int

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Africa:

- o African Union -- <https://au.int/>
- o Economic Community of West African States -- <https://www.ecowas.int/>
- o South African Development Community -- <https://www.sadc.int/>

Americas:

- o NATO Homepage -- <https://www.nato.int/>
- o Organization of American States -- <http://oas.org>
- o Caribbean Community-- <https://caricom.org/>
- o MERCOSUR-- <https://www.mercosur.int/en/>

Asia:

- o Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC) -- www.apec.org
- o Association of Southeast Asian Nations -- <https://asean.org/>
- o Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation -- <https://www.apec.org/>

Europe:

- o European Union -- https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en
- o European Environmental Agency -- <https://www.eea.europa.eu/>
- o NATO Homepage -- <https://www.nato.int/>
- o Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) -- www.osce.org

INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs), THINK TANKS AND RESEARCH GROUPS:

Amnesty International -- www.amnesty.org
Arms Control Association -- <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets>
Brookings Institution-- www.brook.edu
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: <https://carnegieendowment.org/>
Center for International Environmental Law -- www.ciel.org
Center for Strategic and International Studies -- www.csis.org
Federation of American Scientists Chemical and Biological Arms Control
Program -- www.fas.org/bwc/index.html
Greenpeace -- www.greenpeace.org
Harvard Sussex Program on Chemical and Biological Weapons Armament
and Arms Limitation -- <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/spru/hsp/>
International Federation of the Red Cross --
<https://www.ifrc.org/en/who-we-are/the-movement/ifrc/>
Institute for Security Studies (Africa info): www.iss.co.za/
Miller Center of Public Affairs (Univ. of Virginia): <https://millercenter.org/>
Natural Resources Defense Council -- www.nrdc.org
Project on Strengthening the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention –
www.brad.ac.uk/acad/sbtwc
RAND Corporation (non-profit research) -- www.rand.org
Stockholm International Peace Research Institute -- www.sipri.org
Union of Concerned Scientists -- www.ucsusa.org
United States Institute of Peace -- www.usip.org

MEDIA SOURCES (all in English):

Africa Online – <https://www.goafricaonline.com/en/africa-news>
Associated Press -- www.ap.org
Christian Science Monitor -- www.csmonitor.com
Economist (political and economic news) -- www.economist.com
Los Angeles Times -- www.latimes.com
New York Times -- www.nytimes.com
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (worldwide info, but especially good on central and eastern
Europe, Russia, and former Soviet Union) – www.rferl.org
Reuters News Service -- www.reuters.com
Time News Magazine -- www.time.com
Times of India -- www.indiatimes.com
U.S. News and World Report -- www.usnews.com
Wall Street Journal – www.wsj.com

Washington Post -- www.washingtonpost.com

OTHER USEFUL SOURCES:

World Factbook --

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/index.html>

U.S. State Department -- www.state.gov

- The State Department has updated information on the background of each country

[Back to the top](#)

TOWSON UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR CONTACT/SUBJECT LIST

Feel free to email or call any of these professors for advice, research help, and suggestions for your work as part of the Model UN. All are aware that you may be contacting them about this project, and all have some experience and research help that they can provide. Their regional specialties are listed along with email addresses.

POLITICAL ECONOMY (trade, development):

Dr. Gorana Draguljic – Dept of Political Science – gdraguljic@towson.edu

INTERNATIONAL LAW:

Dr. Paul McCartney - Dept. of Political Science -- pmccartney@towson.edu

- International legal issues; Law Committee

Dr. Molly Ruhlman – Dept. of Political Science – mruhlman@towson.edu

-International law, human rights

SECURITY ISSUES:

Dr. Joseph Clark - Dept. of Political Science -- jrclark@towson.edu

ENVIRONMENT:

Dr. Gorana Draguljic – Dept of Political Science – gdraguljic@towson.edu

Dr. Christopher Salice – Environmental Science – csalice@towson.edu

AFRICA:

Dr. Matthew Durington -Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology –mdurington@towson.edu

Dr. Amina Sillah – Dept of Political Science - asillah@towson.edu

ASIA:

Dr. Matthew Hoddie - Dept. of Political Science - mhoddie@towson.edu

- Asia, China, international economic issues

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA:

Dr. Colleen Ebacher - Dept. of History – cebacher@towson.edu

- Modern Latin American history

Dr. Ronn Pineo – Dept. of History – rpineo@towson.edu

-Modern Latin American history

EUROPE:

Dr. Alison McCartney - Dept. of Political Science – amccartney@towson.edu

- Specialty in European foreign policy, European Union, Russia, Germany,

Central and Eastern Europe

Dr. Gorana Draguljic – Dept of Political Science – gdraguljic@towson.edu

Dr. Joseph Rudolph - Dept. of Political Science – jrudolph@towson.edu

- Specialty in Europe, Southeastern Europe, ethnic groups

MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA:

Dr. Charles Schmitz - Dept. of Geography – cschmitz@towson.edu

Dr. Kimberly Katz - Dept of History – kkatz@towson.edu

[Back to the top](#)

ORAL PRESENTATION GUIDE

(adapted from UNA-USA website)

Writing and delivering speeches is an important aspect of the MUN simulation. Speeches help delegates convey the positions of their Member States, help build consensus and start formulating resolutions. The Secretariat sets the speaking time. Although speechmaking is very important to the MUN simulation, many delegates' biggest fear is public speaking. It is essential that delegates come to the conference well prepared: meaning that they have completed prior research, know their country's position, and even have objectives for a resolution.

As there are no set guidelines for how delegates should execute their speeches, delegates should decide how they feel most comfortable delivering their speeches. Some delegates utilize their position papers as their opening speeches, others just write out some key points, and many just speak without any aides. Since public speaking is a skill it is important to *practice, practice, practice*.

Remember the audience should always be considered when making a speech. Be aware of the audience and their diversity. The beginning of the speech must captivate the audience and motivate them to want to hear more. Create the speech to meet the high school level of the audience. It must pertain to audiences' interests.

Mr. Anthony Hogan, Model UN International, suggests the system of six "C's" to improve your ability; **Confident, Clear, Concise, Constructive, "Con Passion", and Critique**.

* *Confidence*: Confidence is portrayed by being as knowledgeable as possible on your subject and conveying this knowledge through the power of your voice and eyes. As a Model UN delegate, you are the authority and representative of your respective country. Research well and speak as if you know you are undoubtedly right. As the speaker, you must have confidence in yourself; otherwise the audience will have little confidence in you.

* *Clear*: A speaker can do many things before-hand to assist them in speaking clearly. Write an outline of the topics that are going to be said, and follow it when speaking. Always speak slowly. This will allow the audience to hear everything that is said. Know your terminology well beforehand to avoid fumbling with words. Try to enunciate words properly, considering the diversity of the audience.

* *Concise*: A good public speaker presents his/her points in a clean and clear-cut fashion. Unnecessary words and information should not be used to fill in the speech. The speech should be brief and to the point--say what you have to say and open the floor to questions. Do not ramble on about the topic in order to appear knowledgeable.

* *Constructive*: An effective public speech needs to be constructed properly. Start with a solid foundation that brings together all of your ideas, present your points, and then connect them by reviewing what was said. There should be an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. It is a known fact that three is a magic number. Say it once, say it and review it, then say it again. This method will help the audience to remember what was said.

* *"Con Passion"*: It is always important to speak from the heart-- with passion --hence the Spanish term "con passion". Always maintain eye contact with the audience. In doing so, the audience will feel connected to you and your speech. You want to grab and to hold the audience's attention.

* *Critique*: It is better to critique than to criticize. Critiquing is constructive and allows for people to grow and improve. Criticizing brings peoples' motivation and confidence down. A critique should be accepted positively, since it is a tool that is used to strengthen one's public speaking.

These six "C's" are necessary and should be included in the research, writing, and delivery of the speech. It is also important to consider engaging the audience when forming and delivering a speech.

Audience

The audience should always be considered when making a speech. Be aware of the audience and their diversity. The beginning of the speech must captivate the audience and motivate them to want to hear more. Some additional tips for effective public speaking can be found below and have been adapted from www.selfgrowth.com/articles/Rando13.html.

1. *ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY SPEECH FILLERS* from your communication. Fillers are words and phrases such as "umm," "well," "it is sorta like," "it's kinda like." These take away from the message you want to convey. Some of the words and phrases to eliminate include: "you know," "I think," "I'm sorry," "just," "but," "should," "like," "um," and, "a," etc.

2. *USE THE POWERFUL PAUSE*. Do not be afraid to have a moment of silence between sentences. A pause, after a thought and prefacing a response to a question holds the attention of the listener.

3. *BREATHE* from the diaphragm. Breathe deeply and often.

4. *PACE YOURSELF*. Do not talk too fast or too slow.

5. *PHYSICALLY POSITION YOURSELF POWERFULLY.* Be aware of your posture when you speak. Slouching, tilting your head and crossing your arms or legs diminishes the message. Stand up straight, shoulders down, feet firmly planted and knees unlocked.

6. *PROJECT YOUR PRESENCE.* Your voice is the herald that carries your message. Speak from your diaphragm not your throat. Keep the sound in the low- to- medium range, as this projects authority. Speak loudly enough to be easily heard. Focus on speaking with enthusiasm, and energy and create color with your voice.

7. *GESTURES.* Do not be a statue. Consider occasionally exaggerating a gesture. Speaking from a platform is different than holding a one on one conversation. Use your whole body when you speak.

8. *CONNECT WITH YOUR AUDIENCE.* Use a lot of eye contact. Speak directly to individual members of the audience. Do not take your eyes off your audience or focus on a point over their heads.

9. *COMMUNICATE CONFIDENCE.* Make a conscious effort to project yourself confidently. This is as important as the message.

[Back to the top](#)

CONFERENCE RULES AND PROCEDURES

Call to Order and Roll Call	The Secretariat or Chair will institute all calls to order, at which point all delegates are requested to immediately cease all conversations and prepare for debate. At the beginning of each day's session, this call will be followed by a roll call in alphabetical order to establish the delegations in attendance and establish a quorum of 2/3 of the delegations in attendance.
Opening the Speakers List and Length of Time to Speak	The Secretariat or Chair will announce the opening of the Speakers' List and the length of time allowed for presentations and Q&A (if applicable). Once the first three delegations on the speakers' list are established, the Secretariat or Chair will open the debate.
Presentation of Preliminary Statement	Each delegation will be called by the Secretariat or Chair in alphabetical order (by groups of three) to make their preliminary statements. One delegate should turn on their mic when called. No questions are allowed during this period.
Getting on the Speakers' List	1) Use the raise hand function and message the chair privately via the Zoom chat. 2) The message should contain a subject/topic of discussion with bullet point(s). 3) The order of speakers will appear on a screen shared by the Secretariat or Chair, who will keep track of each delegate's speaking time.
Getting off the Speakers' List	If a delegation has requested to be on the list but when called upon has changed its mind, state aloud to the Secretariat/Chair that the delegation yields its space to the next delegation on the list.

Closing the Speakers' List	The Secretariat/Chair or any delegation may make a motion to close the Speakers' List when the session time is nearing end. Once the motion is made: · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegate has one vote · Approval of closing the list requires a simple majority If the vote fails to pass, then the Secretariat/Chair determines the length of the extension of time and corresponding adjustment to the conference schedule.
Motion to Call for Moderated Caucus <u>Phrasing</u> “Motion to call for a moderated caucus”	The Secretariat/Chair or any delegation may make a motion to close discussion and call for a moderated caucus. These timed periods allow delegates to debate formally on a topic of choice. · A motion to call for a moderated caucus is made by a delegation by using the raise hand feature being called upon by the Secretariat · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegate gets one vote. · Approval requires a simple majority The Secretariat will determine the amount of time allowed for these informal discussions. Such a motion for each type of caucus may be called for more than once a day, but each one can only be executed <i>once</i> per day. If the vote fails to pass, then debate continues as scheduled. A vote must also include a specific issue. To be recognized in a moderated caucus: · Use the raise hands feature and wait for the Secretariat to recognize you · Use the <u>green yes reaction</u> if the issue is urgently related to current comments

Recognition to Question the Current Speaker	To be recognized by the Secretariat so that your delegation may ask a question of the person at the speakers' podium: · Use the <u>red no reaction</u> The Secretariat will keep a list of those asking questions and call on delegations in an order set by the Secretariat.
Request to Extend Question Time	To extend the time allowed for questions to a particular speaker: · Use the “go slower” reaction · When recognized by the Secretariat, state the amount of time and reason why you would like question time for this speaker extended Time will be extended at the discretion of the Secretariat.
Motion to Table Debate <u>Phrasing</u> “Motion to table debate”	A motion to table debate is a tactic to put the topic being discussed on hold, possibly until resolutions are presented. Delegates could table the topic by adjourning debate, move on to another topic, and then return to the first topic at a later time. To table a debate: · Use the raise hands feature to request the motion · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegate will have one vote. · This motion will pass with a 2/3 majority Once debate on a topic is voted as tabled, the topic cannot be discussed any more until a motion to reopen debate on that topic is made (see below) or a resolution is presented. If such a motion passes, any delegations on the speakers list for that topic will be deleted from the current list.

Motion to Reopen Debate Topic <u>Phrasing</u> “Motion to reopen debate topic”	To re-open debate on an issue or resolution that has been tabled: · Use the raise hand feature to request the motion · When recognized by the Secretariat, state the topic or resolution · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegation has one vote. · This motion will pass with a 2/3 majority. Debate topics will change at the point set by the Secretariat.
Motion to Close Debate <u>Phrasing</u> “Motion to close debate”	This motion is made in order for the committee or General Assembly to move into the voting procedure of a resolution. Once a delegation feels as if the presenter has made the country's position clear and there has been sufficient discussion of the topic and their resolution on the floor, a delegate can make a motion to move into voting procedure by: · Use the raise hand feature to request the motion to close debate · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegate has one vote. · A simple majority is required for this motion to pass If it passes, a resolution vote will immediately follow (see below).

Resolution Voting	Once a motion for the closure of debate on a resolution is passed, the Secretariat will call for those wishing to speak in favor of the resolution. · Interested delegates should use the raise hand feature · The Secretariat will recognize two (2) delegations to speak from their seats · Each delegation will have one minute to state that delegation's final argument Questions will not be allowed during this period. The Secretariat will then call for those wishing to oppose the resolution. · Interested delegates should use the raise hand feature · The Secretariat will recognize two (2) delegations to speak from their seats · Each delegation will have one minute to state that delegation's final argument Next, a link will be posted in the chat box to a Google Voting document. Countries will have 3 minutes to submit a vote of yes, no, or abstain. Only one vote will be allowed per country. Any country that votes more than once will be disqualified. Once a vote has been registered, a country cannot change its vote. Resolutions pass with a 2/3 majority of delegations present The Secretariat is responsible for all vote tabulations. After a resolution moves to a vote, no amendments may be included.
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Amendments to Resolutions	If either a sponsor or signatory to a resolution wishes to propose an amendment to a resolution during the Resolution Debating and Voting Session, this delegation must get approval of the wording from at least five other delegations that are signatories or sponsors of the resolution. To make an amendment: · One delegation must call for a motion to include the amendment by using the raise hand feature Upon recognition by the Secretariat: · The amendment must be read slowly twice · The five delegations in approval must be stated · A copy of the amendment must be shared with the Secretariat in order for it to be shown upon the main screen At this point, there may be: · A five-minute moderated caucus period for discussion of the amendment, allowed at the discretion of the Secretariat Followed by: · A five-minute Q&A period handled by one of the amendment sponsors follows Next: · A Zoom Poll will appear. Each individual delegate has one vote. · A simple majority needed for its inclusion in the resolution A maximum of two amendments per resolution may be brought to a vote during the conference.
Abstaining	Delegations may abstain on resolution voting only. They may not abstain on any procedural votes of any kind, including motion to table and close debates.

Point of Order or Information	During the debate on any topic, a delegation wishing for clarification, explanation, or resolution of seemingly unclear parliamentary rules can send a private message to the Rules Chairperson. The Rules Chairperson may: · Respond by message · Direct the question to the Secretariat · Request a private meeting with the delegate to clarify the answer The decision of the Rules Chairperson is final. The Chairperson will inform the Secretariat of all decisions affecting the debate. The Secretariat will announce such decisions to the General Assembly at its discretion.
Point of Personal Privilege	A delegate may raise a point of personal privilege in order to inform the chairperson of a physical discomfort s/he is experiencing, such as: · Inability to hear another delegate's speech · Request for calling delegates to order (ex: reduction in chatter) To notify the Secretariat of this point, use the "go slower" reaction, and the Secretariat will recognize a delegation to explain its request. The Secretariat will formally make all announcements of these requests.

[Back to the top](#)

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS -MODEL UN 2025/2026

BCPS:

Dulaney High School
Dundalk High School
Eastern Technical High School
Franklin High School
George Washington Carver Center for Arts
and Technology
Hereford High School
Kenwood High School
Lansdowne High School
Loch Raven High School
Milford Mill Academy
Owings Mills High School
Parkville High School
Perry Hall High School
Pikesville High School

Randallstown High School
Sparrows Point High School
Towson High School
Western School of Technology and
Environmental Science

Non-BCPS:

Crofton High School (Anne Arundel)
Homeschool
Lackey High School (Charles)
Mount Saint Joseph (Private)
North Point High (Charles)
St. Charles High School (Charles)

[Back to the top](#)

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS' CONTACT INFORMATION

For information regarding the Model UN Conference, please contact one of the two co-chairs of the conference, the program manager, or the BCPS contact listed below.

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[Back to the top](#)