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# MUNFW 2019



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## *A Common Humanity: Back to the Principles of the UN Charter*

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The theme for the 69th annual Model United Nations of the Far West Conference is “A Common Humanity: Back to the Principles of the UN Charter.”

Secretary-General, Hannah Petitti and Under-Secretary General Robert Atha explained that they chose this topic “because of the movements of divisive politics and populism that are taking control all around the globe [and] while it is important to address these concerning governments, we must not let that hinder our ability to make a positive and lasting difference.” They hope that the focus of the conference will be on items that bring together nations from around the world. Goals for this year’s conference are centered around the theme.



Secretary-General Petitti stated that her goals for delegates are “to use old-school diplomacy to address new-age issues that the founders of the UN would’ve never been able to imagine.” She also added “Technology, social evolution, and the world’s agenda in general have changed so much, yet the UN still has its same goal in mind: to keep peace and bring the world forward.” Under-Secretary-General added that goals include “seeking to make a lasting impact when addressing global issues and making it all geared towards working together on resolutions through consensus, rather than focusing on the things that divide us as nations.”

### **A Day In The Life**

#### Secretary-General

“The day in the life of the Secretary General is unpredictable because my day is built around what delegates and chairs need from me. But mostly my day will revolve around visiting committees to see what delegates are up to and helping anyone who

needs it. So delegates are likely to find me walking around making sure everyone is acting in a way that reflects their member state, committees are moving forward with their agenda items, and we are having meaningful debate.”

#### Under-Secretary General

“Wake up early, get all of the supplies ready for the chairs to come pick up, placards and information for committees; meet with chairs from the various committees to see where they are in regard to making progress on resolutions; organize guest speakers and prepare speeches for events; address any concerns from delegation chairs; eat some lunch; go into each committee to make program announcements; spend time helping to guide committee chairs towards meaningful and impactful resolutions; finish committee and meet with all the chairs to discuss how their days went; eat some food, get some sleep and repeat the process until we have quality resolutions and another year hosting Model UN in the books.”

# Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

## Human Rights Council



Left to Right: Josie Brun, Savannah Noel Overly, Alyssa Edmond

### Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?

#### Savannah Noel Overly:

I'm most excited to watch delegates in the HRC deliberate over issues that have not previously been addressed. I'm also very excited to chair with two lovely ladies with which I have not previously worked with very much!

#### Josie Brun:

I am most excited to meet all of our delegates and to hear what they have to say about the issues we've presented.

#### Alyssa Edmond:

I'm excited to see how the delegates react to the topics we have prepared and how they decide to approach some really difficult topics.

### Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?

Savannah Noel Overly: This is my second year at MUNFW--in 2018, I represented the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the 4th committee. My favorite experience was when 4th committee *finally* voted in a resolution regarding the issue of Palestine and Israel (which took all four days of the conference to nail down).

#### Josie Brun:

This is my third year at MUNFW. My first year I was a DPR for Ukraine in UNEP and last year I was a co-head delegate for Canada in the Commission on the Status of Women. My favorite part of MUN is meeting new people and the conversations we get to have; it's great to spend almost a week with people that care about the same issues and have the same interests that you do, and that want to talk about it.

#### Alyssa Edmond:

This is my 2nd year at MUNFW and last year I was a delegate for the Russian Federation. My favorite experience was walking out of committee after a roll - call vote on a resolution we didn't agree with.

### Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?

Savannah Noel Overly: No, I do not play basketball or volleyball, despite being 5'11". Yes, that's very tall. Yes, I'm still going to wear heels every day.

Josie Brun: I love traveling and also sometimes I can come off as mean because of my face but I promise I'm not! I'm happy to help

Alyssa Edmond: If you think my hair looks like it hasn't been brushed, that's because it hasn't.

# Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

## General Assembly & Third Committee



Left to Right: Allison Krebs and Judy Smith

### Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?

#### Judy Smith:

I'm most excited to hear the debate on Freedom of Information in the GA. There are so many different perspectives internationally and I can't wait to see what resolutions the delegates come up with.

#### Allison Krebs:

I am most excited to see how delegates in the General Assembly react to my issue, "Elaborating on Sexual Rights in the 21st Century." This is a topic of vast importance that I hold dear to my heart. I am looking forward to hearing debates about these meaningful issues and reading the resolutions that delegates create.

### Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?

#### Judy Smith:

This is my third year at MUNFW. I was a South Korean delegate in UNEP my first year and one of the PRs for Russia last year. Representing Russia was my favorite experience and I loved visiting each of the committees.

#### Allison Krebs:

This is my third year at Model United Nations of the Far West (MUNFW). My first year I was a delegate for The Republic of Korea in United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), my second year I was a Permanent Representative for the Russian Federation and was assigned to the Security Council, and this year I am President of the General Assembly. My favorite experience at MUNFW so far was being a part of the Russian Federation and playing unapologetically in character last year. It was great being able to watch my delegates commit so thoroughly to their roles and shake things up in committee.

### Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?

Judy Smith: If I look unapproachable, that's just my face. Come talk to me!

Allison Krebs: If you're ever questioning my decisions as a chair, just remember "The Office" Season 4: Episode 16.



Left to Right: Ashley Shah, John Spenczak, and Brandon Ng

No comment was given from chairs.

# Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

## United Nations Environmental Assembly



Left to Right: Maddie Dohrer, Amber Holland, Jenny Rooper, Jacen Miller

### Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?

#### Maddie Dohrer:

I'm eager to see how creatively the delegates in our committee tackle our agenda items within the scope of the conference topic. It's an unusual and novel way to approach environmental issues as the UNEA, taking it with the context of the UN Charter, and I'm excited to see the results it brings.

#### Amber Holland:

I am so excited to see the different directions the delegates take the debate, and seeing them come together to create global solutions

#### Jacen Miller:

I'm very excited to meet my delegation and hopefully start on our Air Pollution topic first

#### Jenny Rooper:

I'm excited to see the directions the debates will take and the interpretations of each topic done by each state.

### Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?

#### Maddie Dohrer:

This is my third year coming to MUNFW, but my first time chairing. I have also been to NWMUN in Seattle, twice to Mini-MUN, and to SIHMUN in Switzerland. I have represented a variety of countries, including Malaysia, Peru, Russia, Costa Rica, France, and was the head delegate for Zimbabwe at last year's MUNFW. My favorite experience was being able to go to Switzerland and experience the European style of MUN conferences, which were surprisingly different from those here.

#### Amber Holland:

This is my 8th conference, 3rd time at MUNFW. I have been a chair, head delegate, and a delegate for countries such as Portugal, UK, Russia, Bangladesh, France, and Kazakhstan.

#### Jacen Miller:

I've been to several conferences both in and outside the country. I've represented many countries, but my prized positions have been for Uganda, Portugal, China, and a Far West chair! My favorite

experience has definitely been chairing for Far West.

#### Jenny Rooper:

I've been doing MUN for two years now and have been to seven conferences, but this is my first time chairing. I've played a number of various delegates from p5s to developing countries.

### Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?

#### Maddie Dohrer:

I just got back a couple weeks ago from the UK, where I interned as a researcher and campaign content creator for an environmental social enterprise.

#### Amber Holland:

Last year I traveled to 10 countries and 6 states!

#### Jacen Miller:

I'd like to think of myself as a traveler-in-training. At this time, Japan is my favorite country I've visited. It would be my dream to visit every country in the world!

Jenny Rooper: I have a 30 lbs cat and am willing to show pictures.

## Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

### United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Executive Council



Left to Right: Alexandra Russell, Madison White, and Piper Lowinger

#### **Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?**

##### Piper Lowinger:

I am most looking forward to hearing the delegates' various perspectives on the committee's agenda topics. We will be discussing pressing issues that question societal values and demand the exercise of morality and rationality. I believe it goes without saying that we will all leave this conference with new knowledge, equipped with tools for understanding and cooperation.

##### Madison White:

I'm most excited to see the delegates in my committee tackle some of the world's toughest and most complex problems. I can't wait to see the thoughtful and creative solutions they come up with.

#### **Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?**

Piper Lowinger: This will be my third year participating in the MUNFW, as a delegate, PR, and Chair, respectively. Last year was particularly enjoyable because I helped to present Whittier College's bid to host the 70th session of the MUNFW as the future President of the GA. I am pleased to announce that Whittier College will be hosting next year's conference!

Madison White: This is my third year at MUNFW, my first year I was a delegate for Lebanon in UNHCR, and last year I was the PR for Liberia. My favorite experience was my first year, working in my voting bloc to write our resolution. We had a really great group and I learned a lot.

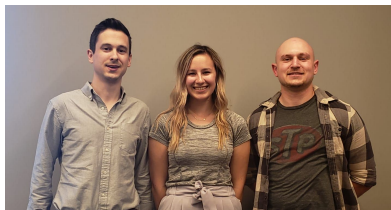
#### **Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?**

Piper Lowinger: I have been selected for two fellowships this coming Summer and Fall and will be traveling to Tanzania and France for a combined six months to conduct a self-designed research project. I would love to speak with anyone about their own experiences as a Fellow or researcher. If you see me around, please don't hesitate to ask me about my project or share some advice!

Madison White: One thing I want everyone to know about me is that I'm really looking forward to working with this year's delegates and excited to get to know them over the next few days.

# Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

## Security Council



Left to Right: Andrew Long-Higgins, Katie Heinrich, and Sean Peterson

### **Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?**

#### Catie Heinrich:

I am excited to work closely with a small group of delegates.

#### Sean Peterson:

I love the variability of the security council and how strategic it is. It will also be a good break from the monotony of regular committee processions.

#### Andrew Long-Higgins:

This morning's news of al-Bashir's ouster by military coup in Sudan, Bouteflika's resignation in Algeria, and Haftar's advance on Tripoli will likely thrust MENA to the top of the UNSC agenda. It will be interesting to see how the Council responds to the ever-growing list of threats to global security and stability—especially in light of deepening division amongst the P5. Additionally, continued conversations and division between the P5 and the E10 on issues of working

methods, Subsidiary bodies, and penholdership will likely compound the Council's challenges. I am eager to see how the delegates balance discussions on the internal workings of the Council with the pressing issues of international peace and security.

### **Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?**

#### Catie Heinrich:

This is my third time at MUNFW. My first year I represented Hungary in the GA, my second year I was PR for Mongolia, and I am excited to spend my third year as the Security Council Co-Chair.

#### Sean Peterson:

This will be my 3rd time at this conference and my 5th overall. I am currently the President (ex-VP and Secretary as well) of the MUN club at Montana State University. Last year was my favorite experience, as I was a PR and was also able to fill in for the Security Council as El Salvador.

Andrew Long-Higgins: This is my second MUNFW conference, and fourth Model UN experience—all as a committee delegate.

Favorite experience: playing the US on 4th committee.

### **Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?**

#### Catie Heinrich:

I want everyone to know that I am I am easy going and available to help anyone with any questions about the conference.

#### Sean Peterson:

I am about to graduate with a political science degree and plan on attending law school in the fall at Widener University Commonwealth Law School in Harrisburg, PA.

#### Andrew Long-Higgins:

Amateur competitive cyclist.

# Meet the Chairs of MUNFW 2019

## United Nations Development Program



Maria Beatrix C. Bakabak, Michelle Therese Y Duran, Caryl Louise Anne Billones

### Q1: What are you most excited for in your committees?

Caryl Louise Anne

Billones: I'm looking forward on how the delegates will interact with each other and how will they come up with effective and efficient resolutions.

Maria Beatrix C. Bakabak:

I am looking forward to more intellectual discussions and debates from the delegates in my committee. I also want to see how they would all work together in addressing the agendas at hand

Michelle Therese Y Duran:

I'm most excited about learning new experiences and perspectives from each and every delegate regarding the UNDP agendas.

### Q2: How many times have you been to Model UN, your positions held, and what has been your favorite experience so far?

Caryl Louise Anne

Billones: I attended MUN in our school three times and this would be my second time in the MUNFW. I attended the 66th Session of the MUNFW last 2016 and I was part of the General Assembly Committee as a delegate from the Commonwealth of Australia. My favorite experience was getting to know other delegates during unmoderated caucus. I also had fun working with other delegates when we are trying to draft our resolution. I also remember the time when the delegate from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea brought a framed photo of Kim Jong-un in our committee and would always place it in his table.

Maria Beatrix C. Bakabak:

I have been to 7 Model UNs in the Philippines, Indonesia, and the US. This MUNFW will be my 8th and second time as a Chair. I will soon chair an international conference in the Philippines after a couple months. My favorite experience is back when I was a General Assembly delegate here in the MUNFW

last year. I was amazed at how some delegates were so much in character of the country they are representing. I never thought that I'd go back again this year as Chair. Michelle Therese Y Duran: I have joined a three Model UN conferences back in our school in the Philippines. This is my second time joining the MUNFW, the previous one was the 66th session when I was a delegate representing the Kingdom of Sweden. My favorite experience was meeting new people and listening to all their different stories.

### Q3: What is one thing you want everyone to know about you?

Caryl Louise Anne

Billones: I worked for the Philippine Navy (Hukbong Dagat ng Pilipinas).

Maria Beatrix C. Bakabak:

I am very interested with international humanitarian affairs and i wish to work in that field in the future.

Michelle Therese Y Duran:

I work for the Armed Forces of the Philippines.