



In This Issue:

Greetings from News
USG

Interview with SG
Nolan Sawatzky (Page
2)

Speaking in
Committee (Page 3)

Position Paper Aid
(Page 3 & 4)

Characteristics of an
Emissary (Page 4 & 5)

Overview of Israel-
Palestine Conflict
(Page 5 & 6)

News in Brief &
Cartoon (Page 6 & 7)



Welcome Back to the Madness that is MUN!

By Fanny Kung, News USG

Delegates, welcome to HSMUN 2012!

Even though the Conference seems to be some far-off event not yet to be stressed over, volunteers have been busy planning details of the conference! The Dais and Intervention staff have already met and are busy researching for their committees, the Crisis team are secretly planning an international well, crisis! And of course, the dutiful members of the News Committee have come together to produce our first edition of the 2012 HSMUN conference!

The Daily Delegate will be available via the HSMUN website and News committee blog page before the beginning of the conference. During the conference volunteers will stand at strategic outposts to hand out copies of the Daily Delegate to all delegates, hot off the press! (or printer)

Hopefully, the Daily Delegate can calm your nerves about the seemingly daunting task of research, proper citation, committee proceedings, and other miscellaneous areas of concern!

For the first time, we are introducing a Historical Committee in the HSMUN, and this years topic will be the question of the creation of the state of Israel. As this is widely discussed current event, hopefully this will encourage even MORE enthusiasm for researching this topic and increases your knowledge when you hear others discuss this conflict so you can be critical of their arguments.

There are a plethora of exciting topics for all the committees this year, and in-depth research and a well-written position paper will make all the difference...so don't leave it until the last minute!

Don't worry; we'll be dutifully snooping all conference happenings!

An Interview with Nolan Sawatzky: The Superpower Behind HSMUN 2012

By Katelyn Hoffart

As another exciting year of HSMUN is quickly approaching, new and returning delegates alike may be wondering: just who is the mysterious driving force behind HSMUN? Could it be a supreme intelligent alien race, or maybe a robot? No, it's Nolan Sawatzky, this year's Secretary General (who is quite human) and here to make sure this is HSMUN's best year yet!

KH: So Nolan, tell us a bit about yourself.

NS: I am a Public Relations Student at Grant MacEwan University; it is my first and only year in the program. I chose the program because I felt like it would sync well with my history degree and give me an employable skill set. I am a lifelong Edmontonian and this will be my 7th year attending the conference as either a volunteer or a delegate.

KH: What's an average day like for you?

NS: I wish I could say it involves running a multinational corporation by day and fighting crime by night, but it's quite a bit

more mundane than that. Morning is a constant struggle to wake up in time for 8 am classes. After those are over, I'm usually either working on group projects or off to work at the U of A's Health and Dental Plan office. My evenings are usually spent doing homework, watching some TV, or reading a book or two.

KH: Tell us about an international issue that you have been following lately.

NS: Cyber warfare. As our society continues to put an increased reliance on networked communications, cyber space is going to become even more important. They say that the result of future wars might be determined not by who has more planes or tanks but by who has the capability to access and disrupt the other side's information networks. In my opinion, the international community is going to have to take a serious look at beginning to come up with laws and regulations establishing what acceptable cyber conduct is.

KH: Tell us about some of the best parts about being Secretary General.

NS: The best part is definitely getting to be front and centre as everything comes together. As I've said before, we have an amazing volunteer staff. Getting to be there as they come up with all of their zany ideas is a lot of fun and always exciting. Oh, and I also get to boss them all around; I never get tired of that.

“ Even if it's only once or twice, you will feel so much better for having spoken up, and there's no such thing as a wrong opinion!”

-Nolan Sawatzky, SG

KH: Lastly, what message would you like to send out to all the delegates this year?

NS: I want to convey to them just how excited we are about this being the conference's 10th year. I guess when you have been around for 10 years you must be doing something right, and in my opinion what's right is the amazing balance of fun and learning we always seem to strike each year. Most of that is the result of having a great volunteer staff, and delegates who are willing to take a risk and speak up. So I guess my message to delegates is don't be afraid to make yourself heard. Even if it's only once or twice, you will feel so much better for having spoken up, and there is no such thing as a wrong opinion!

Inside Committees: Speaking in Style

By Narisa Bandali

The United Nations (UN) deals with conflicts between UN countries, some of which can be pretty hostile to one other. That's why there are some decorum rules in place which we, here at HSMUN, also use when speaking during the committee session.

The first is that of maintaining formality during the council. As a delegate you are not only representing yourself; you are representing a whole country. Therefore, a delegate cannot refer to themselves or others in the first person. They should not use the words 'I' or 'you' without referring to a country as well. For example:

France: "We, the delegation of France, do wonder whether we are friends with the delegation of England."

As well, when called on to speak, a delegate must always stand and, without fail, address the dais, the HSMUN staff running the committee, and thank them before beginning.

If these rules are broken, any other delegate may call a Point of Order. To do this, simply raise your placard as soon as the infraction is made in the speech and call out "Point of Order". The issue will be addressed immediately by the president, It would go something like this:

China: "Thank you, Madam President. The delegate from Russia failed to address himself in the third person."

Following this, Russia would apologize and then continue his speech.

If, in a speech, a delegate outright insults you, your country or your foreign policy, you may raise your placard and call "Right of Reply". After the speech, the President will call on you to address the insult and you may defend yourself. A delegate may not call Right of Reply to a Right of Reply of another delegate.

When discussing the issues facing your committee you may address the other delegates by adding your name to the Speaker's List. To do this, hold your placard in the air until someone from the

dais places your country on the list. This list represents the order in which all delegates will speak. The last decorum rule for delegates is called Point of Inquiry. If a delegate has a question, he will raise his placard after the speech and call "Point of Inquiry" leaving his placard up until his name has been placed on the Speaker's List. Delegates will be allowed to speak following the order of the Speaker's List. The country being questioned may choose whether or not to entertain the questions.



Decorum rules in the Security Council are actually quite simple, especially once you get the hang of them. Point of Order, Point of Inquiry and Right of Reply will be used during your session at HSMUN, so it's worth getting to know them!

How to: Write a Potentially Perfect Position Paper

By Aseel Othman

"But to me the bottom line is the more education you can give yourself, and the more preparation you can do, the less chance of failing."

This quote, by Stuart Pearce, illustrates what delegates need to do in order to be successful at HSMU. Preparation will lead to an easy and exciting conference, and make the entire HSMUN experience

more interesting.

Delegates are required to write a position paper by February 2012. The position paper is your first chance to get to know your country and its position in the global community. When beginning your position paper, it may seem difficult to know where to begin. There is a wealth of information available online and in books about your respective country. Research is your greatest asset for this conference.

A good position paper includes a basic introduction about your country, its allies, and the priorities of its foreign policy. Some ideas for basic information include economic status, type of government in power, population size, political leaders and main problems facing the country. Secondly, address the issues you will be debating in your council, mention if your country even addresses a particular issue, and if so, what it has done with regards to the problem and what policies it has implemented to deal with the problem.



Facts are also needed to prove the country has done something about the issue, as well as an understanding of why the approach was taken.

Characteristics of an Emissary Eemaan Khan

First timer? Don't like to argue?
Apprehensive about speaking in public? There's a first time for everything! Often new delegates feel nervous during session, but it doesn't have to be this way! Simply using techniques such as speaking with a calm, non-monotonic voice, and essential manners such as politeness, and common courtesy

Trying to understand why your country takes particular stances is an underlying feature of what you will debate. Understanding the motivations for your country's policies is vital when writing the position paper, moreover, it will greatly help your debate during the conference.

Initially, you can use research engines like Google, to find information. Ensure that information is correct, since the validity of internet information can be questionable. Sites such as Wikipedia should not be used as references, as they can be altered by anyone. Citing is an important key factor of these papers, as information must be credited to those that provide it. NoodleBibs Express is an excellent resource to assist with citing. Once research is done, organize it into suitable paragraphs concerning the issues that will be debated, and your country's information and beliefs. The Dias staff will also be updating blogs that contain links to help you narrow down your search and keep you updated with current events. You can also find examples of position papers on these blogs.

Finally, the paper needs to appear formal and well-organized. It should be approximately one to two pages in length, and include a title relating to your country and council. It should be concise, using clear sentence structure and necessary words, in order to effectively communicate ideas and principles.

Good preparation for the HSMUN conference begins with a well-researched paper that shows in-depth knowledge about your country and its policies. Understanding will allow you to debate knowledgeably and be more engaged in the conference. Good luck delegates!

such as not interrupting another delegate will take you a long way. Even laughing at another delegates joke can easily make the experience fun and far more memorable than an otherwise seemingly endless class.

Knowledge is important; however, there is a far larger emphasis on creativity and public speaking skills. You can bring all the notes from your research and position paper, but if they aren't used in a coherent, relevant method to the issue at

hand they'll be rendered useless. Having a thorough understanding will greatly help you with swift, accurate responses so it is highly recommended to review the history of your nation and its politics. Composing your position paper will also help so that your responses and arguments have an historically accurate basis and context.

Along with the right intelligence, consider using some thoughtful strategy. Use your historical and current allies, support their suggestions, create factually accurate power blocks for mutual support, and even try playing your enemies against each other so that you may arise victoriously from the rubble! Try to always keep it realistic though, don't expect to be Iran and ask the US for support (even if your best friend is one of their delegates). Common courtesy doesn't hurt either; let everyone have a chance to speak!

Lastly, be social! Speak with delegates from other schools, make great friends, and most importantly, participate! In the end, remember to adhere to the rules and have a fabulous, unforgettable adventure at HSMUN 2012!

The Origins of the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: A Brief Overview

By Anas Wattar

The state of Israel and its neighbouring countries have been in conflict for decades. This conflict has caused 1.5 million

Palestinians to live in the Gaza Strip under a blockade with shortages of food and basic medicines. Millions of Palestinian refugees were forced out of their homes and had to flee their country. As well, Israel has faced dozens of bombings, resulting in the deaths of hundreds, and the terror of much more.

Although enormous efforts have been made to resolve that conflict, these efforts have generally failed as violence and tension continue to exist. The main reason for this failure is that Palestinians believe that Israelis occupied their land and it does not belong to them; while at the same time, Israelis believe that it is their land. In fact, knowing the history of that area is very important to comprehend the opinion of each side and to understand what caused the conflict in the first place.



Before the twentieth century, the Middle East was ruled by the Ottoman Empire for nearly 400 years. Palestine was inhabited by an Arab Muslims majority in addition to small minorities, including Jews. Most of the Jews at that time lived outside of Palestine, and more so in Central and Eastern Europe. In the late

19th century, Jewish communities around the world began to actively discuss immigrating back to the land of Israel, the land on which their ancestors lived thousands of years ago. They were motivated by the growing anti-Semitism in Europe and Russia, and also by the Jewish religious aspirations to "return to Zion",

In 1917, the British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour wrote a letter to the leader of the British Jewish community promising him the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people on the land of Palestine. This promise, along with the genocides of Jews in Europe and the British Mandate over Palestine, paved the way to the immigration of hundreds of thousands of Jews to Palestine.

However, the Arab population in Palestine opposed the increase of the Jewish population on their land as they perceived it to be a threat to their national identity and to their role in the area. Moreover, many Arabs were forced out of their homes because of the immigration. As a result, the Arabs revolted in the late 1930s to stop the Jews' immigration and to end the British Mandate over Palestine. However, their revolution was suppressed by the British.

The most internationally welcomed solution to the conflict is the two-state solution, which proposes the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Regrettably, it has faced many obstacles. One reason is religious disagreements between Muslims and Jews. Jerusalem is a sacred

city for Muslims and they want to control it, while Jewish people believe that it is theirs and should be under their sovereignty. Also, the Palestinian refugees' "dream[s] of return" to their homelands cannot be fulfilled without forcing out the Israelis that have now lived there for decades. It is unfortunately certain that both sides have to be willing to compromise in order to end this misery and make sure that future generation don't continue to suffer.

(Here's some examples of proper citations)

UNRWA. Palestine refugees. <http://www.unrwa.org/etemplate.php?id=86> (accessed November 14, 2011).

Britannica. Palestine. <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/439645/Palestine> (accessed November 14, 2011).

MidEastWeb. Israel and Palestine: A Brief History - Part I. June 10, 2009. <http://www.mideastweb.org/briefhistory.htm> (accessed November 14, 2011).

Yapp, M.E. (1987-09-01). The Making of the Modern Near East 1792-1923. Harlow, England: Longman. p. 290. ISBN 978-0-582-49380-3.

Hughes, M. (2009) The banality of brutality: British armed forces and the repression of the Arab Revolt in Palestine, 1936–39, English Historical Review Vol. CXXIV No. 507, 314–354

News in Brief (Or, I guess, not-so-brief in some instances.)

By Joseph Siracky

Togo September 26, 2011, The African Union Commission (AUC) and representatives from forty of its member states, as well a several NGOs, met in the Togolese capital to discuss a continental strategy to deal with small arms and light weapons proliferation in the West African region.

The AUC meeting was held in preparation for the UN Arms and Trade Treaty (ATT) conference, which will take place in New York in July 2012. It attempted to elaborate a common

African position on the issue of small arms proliferation in order to ensure a strong ATT next summer.

Small arms and light weapons remain the primary weapons for inter- and intra- communal feuds, local wars, rebel activities, armed insurrections, and terrorism in the region. Small arms are durable, highly portable, easily concealed, simple to use, extremely lethal and possess legitimate military, police and civilian uses. The conflict-ridden region has experienced a surge in small arms availability and trafficking, in which weapons have become both cheap and widely available.

The president of the West African Action Network on Small Arms (WAANSA), Mr. Baffour Doky Amoa, observed that the armed violence caused by small arms proliferation was "no doubt retarding development in the region."

Francis Langumba Keili, Assistant Chief of Staff of Sierra Leone, states, "The widespread availability of small arms to abusive actors poses a threat of unprecedented magnitude to West Africa, far greater than that of HIV/AIDS in terms of its socio-economic and human consequences."

Haiti The cholera outbreak that hit Haiti last October may have been introduced by UN peacekeeping forces, a UN report suggests – at least according to the Boston-based advocacy group.

While the investigative commission appointed by Ban Ki-moon to study the outbreak's origins reached ambiguous conclusions, stating ultimately that "on the scientific evidence, we don't know if it was the UN troops or not," the evidence it presents, according to the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (IJDH), suggests UN troops were indeed responsible.

The report pinpoints the origin of the outbreak to the Meille River, near a peacekeeping base where sanitation conditions were insufficient to prevent fecal contamination of the river. The peacekeepers at the base had been deployed from Nepal shortly after cholera had flared up in the Katmandu Valley. Asymptomatic soldiers, potential carriers of the disease, were not tested before arriving in Haiti.

Based on the report, the IJDH submitted 5000 claims to the UN for damages exceeding \$250 million on behalf of the Haitian victims, on the grounds that the UN forces imported the disease, which had not been present in Haiti for decades.

The UN's response to the allegations may raise serious questions surrounding the standard of criminal immunity of UN personnel. "This is an opportunity for the UN to demonstrate that it's not above its own laws," said Brian Concannon Jr, the IJDH's director. "Providing justice to Haiti's cholera's victims will establish the mission's

credibility and enhance its ability to convince Haitian actors that they need to obey the law."

Peacekeeper immunity is enforced because in the nations in which peacekeepers typically operate the justice systems are often dysfunctional. Many UN member states might resist sending troops because there is a chance that soldiers would face local justice systems.

Nevertheless, criminal immunity does not necessarily preclude accountability.

International Budget Put to Use

By Antonia Tomljanovic

