

October 18, 2016

Dear Advisers and Prospective Delegates,

We are thrilled to formally welcome you to the forty third annual Upper Mohawk Valley Model United Nations Conference to be held at the <u>State University of New York Polytechnic Institute</u> in Utica, New York on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

UMVMUN has strived to instill the characteristics of a critical-thinker and globalized leader into its participants since its inception in 1973. Our conference has been annually sponsored by our local <u>Upper Mohawk Valley chapter</u> of the <u>United Nations Association of the United States of America</u> (UNAUSA). Each year UMVMUN has served as a stage for young minds to manifest their diplomatic acumen as they attempted to face the world's arid political climate. UMVMUN prepares young adults with the tools to combat complacency and acquire the statesmanship skills to help build for a brighter future as a united nations of people.

Last year's conference hosted a variety of committees ranging from the historic Paris Peace Talks of 1919 to the Special Political Committee, which talked about the future of space colonization. This year we have another special historical simulation committee based on the Soviet-Afghan War. Along with that we have the General Assembly, Legal Political Committee, Economic and Social Committee, UN Commission on the Status of Women, World Health Organization, Disarmament and International Security Committee, and Security Council. We are also continuing to integrate special members of the conference leadership who will be representing Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) into various committees. In addition to chair letters, we hope that you encourage your delegates to take a look at the NGO letters that are posted on our website.

Registration for the UMVMUN 2016 can also be completed our website by filling out the <u>registration form</u> found under the <u>For Advisers</u> page. Please print the confirmation page seen on your computer screen after you submit the online registration form and send it, along with a check for the amount of \$40, made payable to "Whitesboro Model UN" to:

Greg Smith/Model UN adviser Whitesboro High School 6000 Route 291 Marcy, New York 13403

After you complete the online registration and we have received your school's registration fee of \$40 your country assignments will be emailed to you. Although we ask that you to register by our preferred deadline of October 31, online registration will remain open through November 22. It should be noted that there will be a \$10 late application fee applied to your account if you do not complete the online registration form by October 31 (total registration cost would be \$50).

While we recognize that your most accurate delegate projection during the registration process may not be perfectly accurate, we prefer that you request a conservative number of delegate seats for your school. If you find out later that you need us to assign more countries to your school, our co-Secretaries General will gladly provide you with additional assignments within 24 hours of receiving an email from you.

Your final and official delegate count, along with payment for your delegates and advisers, is due by November 30. The number that you supply to us for your final count on, or before, this date will be the exact number of delegates and advisers that your school is expected to make payment for at a fee of \$30 per delegate, chair, and/or adviser. Any payment made after November 30 will be assessed an additional fee of \$5 per person that attends the conference. Should your school make your payment early, but then find out that certain delegates cannot attend the conference, full refunds will be given only before the November 30 payment deadline. No refunds will be issued after this date, however, we ask that advisers contact us so that we can make proper adjustments to our committees and food services.

Like the last two years of UMVMUN, authentic conference themed shirts are available for sale on a pre-order basis only. This year we will be offering three options for the shirts. The options consist either a three quarter sleeve baseball tee in the color combination of white/navy or a long sleeve shirt in either light grey or black. You can find pictures of each of the shirt options as well as an <u>online order form</u> on our conference website. We ask that advisers fill out a single collective order form for their entire club and submit it to us online. For schools who opt to purchase shirts, we ask that you pre-order shirts for your school by the same deadline as registration, November 22. You can send your check for the shirts (made payable to "Whitesboro Model UN") together with your school's registration payment by November 30. Remember, the sale of these shirts not only offers a great collectible to remember each year's unique UMVMUN but it is also used as a fundraiser to help keep your costs affordable and stable each year.

Finally, we encourage you and your delegates to join the <u>UMVMUN Conference 2016</u> Facebook event for pre and post conference networking. We also encourage delegates and advisers to <u>follow us on Twitter</u> @UMVMUN and make use of our the <u>#UMVMUN</u> hashtag. Our social media accounts are powerful tools that we use to share relevant information and reminders about the conference. Advisers will continue to receive information and reminders via email as well.

Any additional questions regarding UMVMUN 2016 should be directed to our co-Secretaries General, Lisbeth Valdez and Stephen Ventura, at umvmun@gmail.com. For questions that you would like answered by an adviser, please reach out to either Mr. Frank Robertello at frobertello@uticaschools.org or Mr. Gregory Smith at gsmith@wboro.org. Mr. Smith can also reached on his cell phone at (315) 790-0619.

Respectfully,

Lisbeth Valdez and Stephen Ventura co-Secretaries General UMVMUN 2016

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