

## **PURPOSE OF MODEL UN**

Model United Nations (Model UN) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about international relations, public responsibility, effective communication, globalization, and multilateral diplomacy.

Records indicate that as early as the 1920s students in the United States were participating in collegiate simulations of the League of Nations, the predecessor to the United Nations. As the League of Nations was dismantled and the United Nations was born in 1945, simulation activities of the League of Nations were also transformed into Model UN.

In Model UN, students take on roles as foreign diplomats and participate in simulated sessions of an intergovernmental organizations. Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate inter or transnational issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems. During a simulation participants must employ a variety of communication and critical thinking skills in order to represent the policies of their country. These skills include public speaking, small group communications, research, policy analysis, active listening, negotiating, conflict resolution, note taking, and technical writing. However, school delegation formats vary from region to region.

To date, more than 90,000 students have taken part in Model UN Conferences across the United States.

Mississippi Model Security Council (MMSC) is the state's only collegiate Model UN Conference focusing on international peace and security that also provides a well-trained staff of college students who act as a bridge in facilitating high school student's understanding of crucial and long-standing security issues and strategies. MMSC also offers a relaxed atmosphere that is conducive to an enjoyable learning experience while allowing high school students to be exposed to a college setting.

During the conference each spring, there will be approximately nine separate Security Council simulations conducted simultaneously. Each council consists of fifteen two person delegations. This year's delegation include: China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Croatia, Indonesia, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Panama, South Africa, Viet Nam.

And, most importantly, this marks the programs 30<sup>th</sup> year, and its theme has, therefore, been appropriately chosen as "Recommitting to Humanity through Security and Development."