

# I.A.A. members prepare for model U.N.

By Judy Faruquee

"Other people don't necessarily see the world as we see it," said Clemmie Gilpin, instructor of Afro-American Studies at Capitol Campus, "and the purpose of the International Affairs Association (I.A.A.) is to look at the international issues from a viewpoint other than American."

The I.A.A. gives Capitol Campus students the opportunities to discover multi-cultural differences and similarities. According to the President, Dilip Patel, an engineering major, the I.A.A. is not an organization just for foreign students. Of the 45 members more than half are American. The intention is simply to study international affairs.

Five members of the I.A.A. attended the Model U.N. at the University of Pennsylvania last week. They are: Chris Barrett, Brooke Gaste, Sue Hunter, Joe Oddo, and Pam Smith. Their assigned country was Nigeria, and they went as members of the Organization of African Unity (O of A U). Part of their

homework to study the important issues for the presentation of resolutions was a trip to the Nigerian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

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affairs," said Gilpin. That doesn't mean every participant will, but Gilpin admits that his interest in the I.A.A. is due in part to his two year stint in the Peace Corps when he lived in West Africa.

On February 24-26, 1983, Capitol Campus will host the 11th Annual Model United Nations Conference in conjunction with the United Nations Association of Harrisburg.

Gilpin, faculty adviser for the conference said, "A lot of plan-

ning and hard work goes into it. We send invitations to the high school students in seven counties to participate as delegates from the U.N. member countries."

Members of the I.A.A. do everything from compiling the topics for the agenda of the

General Assembly, to providing food and housing for the visiting students, to staffing and training the personnel who will chair the committees.

It is a big help if I.A.A. members have been participants in model U.N. Programs themselves

The high school students research the country they will represent as delegates. Delegates may be selected in various ways. Some schools send their entire ninth grade

World Cultures class, whereas another holds a debating competition and sends the winners to the conference.

I.A.A. members study international affairs in other ways than political. They sponsored The International Dinner, on October 15. at the student center.

"The dinner," said Patel, "was a covered-dish affair, and featured the cuisine from Poland, Lebanon, Iran and Spain, to name a few countries."

"Everyone liked the festivities. For most people it was something new and different," he added.

Trying new dishes is an ideal way to bridge the cultural gap. "Food bias is hard to overcome," reflected Gilpin, "it is like cultural bias."

The I.A.A. will hold another dinner in the spring, so if you missed this one don't despair.

Perhaps this club is for you. Stop in at the I.A.A. office in Room W110 next door to the radio station. But put your traveler's checks and Bank Americards away. I.A.A. members are not required to pay any dues.

Au revoir, adios, auf Wiedersehen.

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