

Capitol Campus to host model U.N. conference

By Neil Myers

The world is coming to Capitol Campus. On February 23, over 250 high school students "representing" the world's nations will arrive here for three days of intensive debate, as Capitol sponsors its twelfth annual Model United Nations Conference.

"This year's conference will probably be the largest we've ever had," said Clem Gilpin, instructor in Afro-American studies and advisor to the International Affairs Association (I.A.A.), which sponsors the events.

The delegates are high school students from Pennsylvania, Gilpin said. Many of them will stay in the dorms and Meade Heights during the conference. In addition, the students will be using the Heindel Library and meeting in various locations on campus.

Leonid Murog, assistant professor of History and Political Science at York College, will address the delegates and their teachers at the opening ceremonies, which will be held at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 23 in the Olmsted Building

auditorium. Gilpin said all of the weekend's events will be open to observation by anyone interested.

The conference will be divided into a General Assembly and a Security Council, just as is the United Nations, Gilpin explained. Delegates will debate human rights, world hunger, technology and other real-world problems, he added. The students must have a detailed understanding of the issues and be able to argue effectively.

"We don't place a high premium on judging," said Gilpin, adding, "We attempted to de-emphasize competition; however, there's no way of controlling it." He said awards will be given for the best presentations.

Gilpin sees the conference as important to both the delegates and the campus.

"Some are members of foreign affairs clubs; others are learning as a class and their teachers have made it a class assignment. Some have been in contact with 'their country's' embassy."

"They're going to leave here being the Nigerian, the Argentine, the Soviet. . . and that's how they relate to each other."

The campus, in turn, benefits from the presence of potential admissions applicants, Gilpin added. He also emphasized the opportunity for Capitol students to see and hear how the United Nations operates.

"Some will walk by (a conference), come in, and sit down. Others will walk by, see that the Gallery Lounge where they usually sleep is full, and walk on."

Although the delegates will be busy, they will take time out to eat in the dining hall and attend a party Friday night in the Student Center. The party is closed to Capitol students, Gilpin noted.

The conference will conclude on Saturday, the 25th.

Planning for the event began months ago.

"Schools were knocking on my door back in September," Gilpin chuckled, "We get inquiries from all over Pennsylvania."

He said the I.A.A. has been busy confirming applications, assigning roles to the schools and planning the logistics of the conference.

"These people are really on call from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 at night (during the conference)," he said.

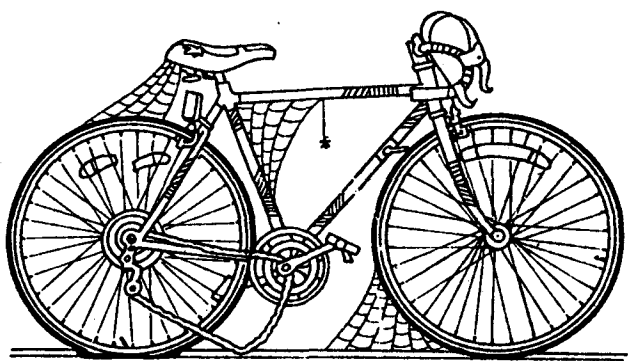
This year's events will include

groups from as far away as Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and as close as Middletown. There will be 18 school districts from five counties, with Dauphin, Cumberland and Lancaster Counties the best represented, Gilpin said.



He recalled a conference two years ago that was almost cancelled by a blizzard.

"I think we had a thousand calls that morning," said Kathy Ritter, a secretary in the Behavioral Science Division. Gilpin sees no problems this year, however. He reported on Wednesday that preparations were on track.



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To correct our mistake:

In the article on instructor evaluation forms appearing in the December **Capitol Times**, the quotation, "The form is a compromise," should have been attributed to Dr. John Joseph, Assistant Provost, and not to "Johnson" as the article said.



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