Model United Nations prepares students for leadership

by John Yagecic

Intelligent students realize that as they graduate from Penn State Harrisburg and enter "the real world," they will be responsible for the preservation and leadership of our nation.

Although students may not be in the position to take on positions of world leadership yet, they can get a good head start.

On Nov. 18, 19, and 20, seven students from Penn State Harrisburg

participated in a Model United Nations held at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Lori Howe, a senior public policy major and president of the International Affairs Association led the team.

"We went representing the country of Zambia," Howe said.

"The college level Model U.N. gives students a better understanding of international politics and current affairs and gave us an opportunity to prepare for the upcoming high school level Model U.N.," stated Howe.

The high school Model U.N., scheduled to take place from Feb. 16 through 18, is sponsored by Penn State Harrisburg and will be held on campus.

Approximately 125 delegations consisting of three or four members each, will arrive from area high schools to represent different countries.

The Penn State Harrisburg Model U.N. was originated by Dr. Clem Gilpin, assistant professor of community systems and afro-American

studies, and this is the event's seventeenth year at the college.

"We want to give students the opportunity to engage in an interscholastic conference," Gilpin said.

"We also use the U.N. format as a forum to discuss international issues," he said.

"These issues are not limited to current events," said Gilpin, "some of the topics to be discussed are 30 or 40 years old."

The International Affairs Association will be running the event under codirectors Howe and Gilpin.

"We've been working since September and there is still a great deal of work to be done," said Howe.

"Before the students arrive, we have to research and organize the issues to be discussed and arrange for food and housing for the students who will be staying over," said Howe.

Organizing the event will be a substantial task for I.A.A.'s 15 members.

"It isn't too late to get involved," Howe said, "we'd appreciate any help we can get."

The Model U.N. also requires work and preparation on the part of the high school students who will be participating.

"Each country is represented by three committees which are the political and security committee, the humanitarian, social, and cultural committee, and the special political committee," Howe said.

"Fifteen of the participating countries will also have a fourth delegate acting as a representative on the security council," Howe stated.

"The delegates who participate need a sense of history, a knowledge of current events, and the ability to analyze social problems and react to crisis situations," Gilpin said

"The Model U.N. requires a time and effort for all parties involved, but the experience is well worth it," said Howe.

"We always get a lot out of it."

Health surveyor speaks to ASA

By Nathan Rapelje

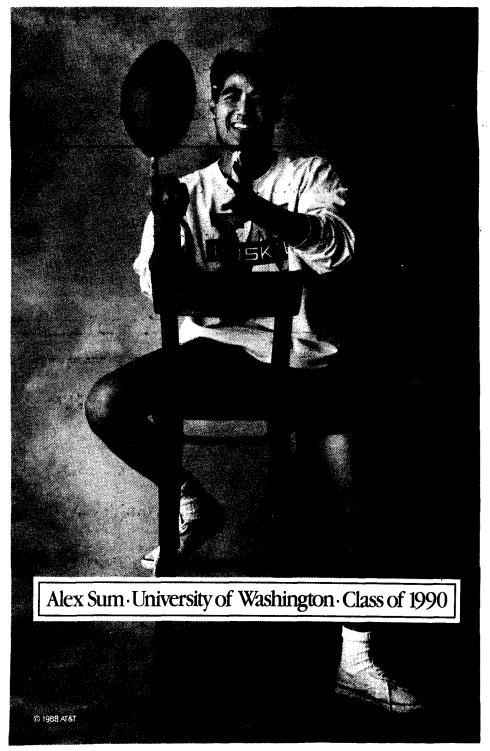
When the Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop reports on AIDS or cancer or a host of other health issues, the nation is receiving the results of months and even years of work by the U.S. Public Health Service and the National Center for Health Statistics.

Much of this work is done by Mr. Stewart C. Rice Jr., chief of the Survey Planning and Developing Branch, and the staff of the Division of Health Interview Statistics.

Rice visited Penn State Harrisburg Nov. 15 and 16 to meet executive members of the Harrisburg Chapter of the Association for Student Accountants, with the president and members of the Black Student Union, with the chairman of the mathematical sciences department, with the president and executives of the math club, and with Assistant Provost and Dean for Research Dr. Howard Sachs.

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