

# UNB TO PARTICIPATE IN WORLD'S

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Turning a concern for our future into an understanding of today's global problems and developing a method for correcting them, is by no means an easy task. The issues brought before the five committees and two special sessions of the 1990 North American Model United Nations (NAMUN) provides participating delegations with this understanding.

The 1990 NAMUN conference will be held in Toronto from February 23 to 27. The UNB Political Science Students Association and the Debating Society have come together for the purpose of sending a delegation to this conference.

What exactly happens at NAMUN? Team or delegations from participating universities across North America are assigned a country, which the delegation has to represent before the two special committees of the United Nations ie. the Security Council, and the International Court of Justice. The delegation also represents its country before the General Assembly Committees of the United Nations. These committees are: Special Political, Political Security, Social Humanitarian and Cultural, Disarmament, Economic and Financial.

A delegation consists of at least five student ambassadors and an optional Faculty Advisor. More students are needed if the delegation's assigned country sits on a Special Session. Each delegation has to spend time before the conference researching and formulating its policies for presentation at the conference. For administrative matters and better communication during the conference, each delegation must designate one member as the 'head' delegate.

NAMUN offers more than 28 hours of Committee Simulation during the five days of the conference. This simulation affords students the opportunity to utilize their knowledge of international relations through committee debate on current issues of concern in the international arena of foreign affairs. The educational possibilities this conference presents are limited by only the commitment and the resourcefulness of the delegates themselves. Structured as a practical workshop, the simulation allows students to explore the working of the foremost international forum. Specifically, delegates gain skills in diplomacy and negotiation, and acquire firsthand knowledge of the difficulties encountered in forging a comprehensive multilateral agreement. The more than 500 university students that will participate in the 1990 NAMUN simulation will come from across Canada, the United States, and various other nations.

The purpose of a simulation of the United N

- \* To encourage vigorous debate on issues that are of vital importance to international relations and on the issues that transcend boundaries of humanity.
- \* To develop an understanding of the structure of the UN, its structure, the scope and depth of the issues facing the organization.
- \* To understand the dynamics of the international system and the role of the UN in contributing to global cooperation, peace, and order.
- \* To provide a practical experience in multilateral diplomacy and in developing interpersonal, and organizational skills - tools necessary in the current world.
- \* To stimulate among university students discussion pertaining to international relations with the intention of resolving areas of concern within a multilateral framework.

To participate, each university sends a minimum of one delegation of student ambassadors. One faculty member will act as the head of the simulation. Each ambassador sits on a committee for the duration of the simulation. Delegations representing countries that are members of the ICJ and send a larger number of delegates.

This simulation allows each student to supplement classroom training - an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in global cooperation in the conference can be incorporated into a university course for independent study. However, this must be arranged by each university.

