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What is your Chair looking for?

This guide is to help experienced delegates learn to turn their skills in Model UN into awards. Awards are given out by your Chair, so we've worked with and interviewed Chairs around the world to figure out—what do Chairs want to see? How can you be an obvious leader in your committee?

What does your Chair care about?

Remember– your Chairs are MUNers, just like you. Your Chair will usually be either a university or high school student, and in either case there are a few things they care about:

Respect: Your Chair worked hard to provide you with a great MUN experience– respect their authority and hopefully their expertise on the topic.

Smooth Sailing: Your Chair wants their committee to run smoothly– this means on schedule, with constructive debate, and with all of the delegates in the room having a fun, empowering, and educational experience. If you take that away, you'll lose any chance you had of an award.

Grateful Delegates: Your Chair is taking a weekend from their lives to Chair your committee—they usually have no chance at an award or other recognition for their role. Be grateful! This means don't frantically wave your placard or stare daggers at them when you're not being called on. It also means thanking your Chair for their hard work, cleaning up after committee ends, and not making it personal if anything goes wrong procedurally during committee.

What do they see?

Your Chairs do not see everything that happens in committee. Even a Chair that circulates throughout the committee and engages with delegates during unmoderated caucuses will only see a fraction of the conversations in your groups. In most cases, your Chair won't be reading your notes to other delegates to negotiate compromises. Unless you make it obvious, your Chair won't know which clauses you wrote, and may not be able to verify that you're perfectly on policy (think about it: can you Chair be expected to know the exact policy of Tuvalu on Drones?).

This means it's especially important to capitalize on what your Chairs do see. The most obvious, of course, are your speeches in front of the entire committee. Through your speeches in moderated caucuses and work in unmoderated caucuses, you can show your Chair what they're missing by demonstrating leadership of a resolution bloc, authorship of certain clauses, or knowledge of your precise country policy. We'll call this "branding" – associating yourself and your country with positive attributes that your Chair is looking for.

There are two main systems for scoring MUN committees- we'll refer to them as the "Numerical", and "Holistic" Methods. While the Numerical Method assigns different point values to different skills and accomplishments, the Holistic Method looks more at the delegate's performance in general and their leadership of the committee.

Delegate Scoring Methods

Numerica

At the end of each session (or at the end of the conference), the Dais will score delegates with points in several different categories

More transparent and thought to be more fair to delegates, and serves the educational objective of many conferences to improve delegates' skills

More common internationally, on the West Coast of the US, and at NGO-run conferences

Favors delegates that are well rounded across the categories being scored- for example: Speaking, Resolution Writing, Negotiation, Knowledge of Procedure, and Professionalism

Holistic

At the end of each session (or at the end of the conference), the Dais will give an impression of the overall performance of each of the delegates

Allows for different styles of delegates that may be especially strong in just one category, but can use that skill to make an impact

More common on East Coast of the United States and Universityrun conferences

Favors delegates that are seen as the leaders of their committee either through their leadership of resolutions or their leadership of ideas and debate in the committee. Less skill focused

Advanced Research - Using UN Sources

The first step of being the Best Delegate starts long before the conference with your research and Position Paper. As any English teacher you've ever had has likely told you, the best resources to use for your research should always be Primary Sources. To figure out how to find information about what the UN has done about your issue in the past as well as what your country policy is, we recommend working through the 5 main stages of UN Decision Making. Check the <u>Resources</u> page at the end of this guide to find these links to UN websites that can help you find this info.

Stage of Decision Making				
Debate	Negotiation	Taking Action	Implementation	Reporting and Evaluation
UN, NGOs, and Member State speeches	Member States meeting to negotiate policy	Member States adopting or rejecting resolutions, conventions and treaties.	Member States, the UN, and NGOs implementing Resolutions, Conventions, and Treaties.	UN Secretariat, NGOs, and Member States reporting on the progress of different programs in implementing solutions.
UN Precedent Sources				
Speeches by the UN and NGOs to the General Assembly	Major UN Events and Outcome Documents	Resolutions, Conventions, and Treaties	Existing and Past Programs of UN Bodies and NGOs	Reports of the Secretary General, NGOs, and ECOSOC
Country Policy Sources				
Speeches by Member States at the United Nations	Government attendance, participation, key events	Votes on Resolutions, Signature/Ratification status of Conventions and Treaties	Government funding or participating in UN or NGO implementation. Government domestic actions.	Reports of the status of the issue in your specific Member State



Branding Note

When you're thinking about what kind of research you're going to focus on, think about how you're going to leverage it in committee. Do you want to come across as the well-researched legal expert? Spend your time researching past resolution, treaties, and charters to cite in speeches and resolutions. Want to be the inspirational reformer? Research potential solutions that the UN hasn't tried yet. Are you going to be a combative delegate? Research speeches and statements by leaders of other countries that you can bring as ammunition against them.





Summer 2017

Learn Model UN!

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

HARVARD
GEORGETOWN
U.C.L.A.
AUSTIN COLLEGE
SOUTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY



We offer beginner, intermediate, and advanced MUN programs for students ages 11 to 18.

LEARN FROM PASSIONATE EDUCATORS

MUN Institute Staff are passionate about helping students gain confidence & learn Model UN.

RECEIVE PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTION

Our program provides a small group setting (1 to 12 ratio) so students obtain personal feedback on public speaking, position papers, & resolution writing.

ENGAGE WITH INTERACTIVE CURRICULA

Our day to day includes lectures, simulations, feedback, and free time. Our programs culminate in a final full day Model UN simulation.

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GAIN KNOWLEDGE AND NEW SKILLS

Our program teaches Model UN which enables students to gain real world skills, learn about global issues, enhance their leadership, and get accepted into great universities.

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