

35th MOAS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

December 1st, 2015: Newsletter No. 3

REMARKS FROM PROGRAM COORDINATOR VICTORIA ABALO

Press had the pleasure of sitting down with the coordinator of the Model OAS, Ms. Victoria Abalo. We discussed MOAS's promising future, the importance of varying perspectives, and the censorious importance of youth in today's society. Ms. Abalo asserted the importance of broadening gender, social, and economic diversity. She feels expanding MOAS to everyone, no matter their financial limitations, is a necessity for the future of this program. It is vital to extend participation opportunities not just to those of wealthier backgrounds, but to anyone with a passion for foreign affairs, no matter their socioeconomic status. Ms. Abalo believes it is critical to gain world knowledge through all kinds of viewpoints. Abalo heartily believes that people from different backgrounds further boosts the depth of MOAS, and the inclusion of people from different background exposes problems and contributes better knowledge to help build strong resolutions. "To succeed in today's world you must know and experience things going on in other countries not only your own. MOAS has the capacity to not only accomplish this but, thrive," Ms. Abalo adds hopefully.

During these days we spend in Washington DC, Abalo is looking forward to the new perspective youth delegates will bring to this international organization. She emphatically appreciates the flexibility, positivity, and optimism the high school delegates provide to a program designed to forge new resolutions to help better the future of the Americas. She feels the youth offer a unique perspective that diplomats may overlook and not think of.

Ms. Abalo was inspired to become a part of MOAS when she was working in the department of international relations and the OAS was a part of this. She attended Argentina, her home country, as an expert on OAS and was utterly inspired by the critical knowledge MOAS provides students with. She hopes to have the ability to expand MOAS and create a larger conference, as well as multiple conferences, and dreams of one hemispheric model a year. Ms. Victoria Abalo was enlivening as well as stimulating and we can not wait to see what the future holds. We would like to express our gratitude for Ms. Abalo's insight; it was a pleasure.

Special Features Writer:
Gabi Rudnick



**Organization of
American States**

Ambassador Nestor
Mendez

*Assistant Secretary
General*

Ambassador La Celia
Prince

*Chief of Staff of the
Assistant Secretary
General*

Victoria Abalo

*MOAS Program
Coordinator*

Sadie Proud

MOAS President

Dominic J. Blair

*MOAS Secretary
General*



COMMITTEES

General Committee

Chair: Sadie Proud

Vice Chair: Juan Camilo Castro

Press members got an opportunity to speak with Head Chair of General Committee, Sadie Proud today where she explained her excitement for the Mock Organization of American States conference and stressed the importance of our participation during this period of collaboration and proactive change. Sadie stressed the collaborative aspect of MOAS and appreciates some of the “head budding” that occurs here because she thinks it is a great example of what occurs in the actual OAS and in global politics in general. Excited to hear the resolutions all of the working groups have gathered thus far, Sadie said goodbye wishing the best of luck to delegates from all of the committees.

As the first day of Mock Organization of American States came to a close and the second day progressed, the General Committee working groups were working diligently to formulate their clauses on specific sub topics. However, interconnectivity was still a reigning theme throughout discussions. One group focused on warning systems for natural disasters. Today, they crystallized their points which revolved around the use of flags in combination with radios as an early emergency response system. This group and the rest of the working groups came together part of the way through the day with the drafted resolutions and had a riveting debate.

General Committee Writer:
Alyssa LoRusso

First Committee

Chair: John Besche

Vice Chair: Grace Christenson

Kicking off the second day in First Committee, delegates broke out into working groups and one of our press writer was able to talk to the head chair. John Besche is a junior from Bethesda, Maryland, and this is his third time coming to the MOAS. He was very well spoken and invested in making the delegates not only make great resolutions, but also make new friends and connections throughout the next two days. This organization is important to him because it is like a “dream in action”. The issues that you see on the news and around you are what the delegates get to work with, and this is what makes Besche come back every year.

As the day progressed, First Committee delegates were progressing with their resolutions as well. One of their main ideas was to focus on new educational models which would teach the youth about democracy and guide us to a better future for the Americas. Another topic that the delegates discussed was to stop the military dictatorships by encouraging a three branch system of government. With checks and balances in place, this would help promote democracy. Their funding ideas are mostly going to come from the MOAS regular funds. The delegates ideas were very engaging and informative, and everyone is decided for tomorrow.

First Committee Writer:
Emily Henry

Second Committee

Chair: Charles Hanley

Vice Chair: Sophia Azimi

In the morning Second Committee began their delegation meetings with the alternate delegates by giving their opening statements. Following that the delegates got into their working groups and began creating resolutions involving promoting prisons to require drug-related offenders to attend rehabilitation sessions and creating anti-drug campaigns for schools and communities.

When Second committee Head Chair, Charles Hanley was asked about his goals for OAS, he replied, "I want everyone to have a good time and experience at the OAS. If we input these positive experiences, they will remember them and possibly go on to become politicians." When asked what his favorite part about being chair was, Hanley replied, "I like talking, and I enjoy the social aspect. Tomorrow is when the real action happens." On the third and final day of Model OAS, all committees will be working to conclude their resolutions and debate them with the rest of the delegates.

Second Committee Writer:
Grace Alderman

COMMITTEES

Third Committee
Chair: Jacob Gibbs
Vice Chair: Isaiah Barnes

With the second day in full swing, delegates from Third Committee began writing their resolutions in hopes to foster civil society participation throughout the Americas. Third Committee Chair, Jacob Gibbs, a senior from Midland, Texas, was hard at work facilitating group discussions. His goal for this year is to reach a consensus on all topics discussed, creating thoughtful and impactful resolutions. Gibbs believes that the ability for MOAS to allow people to grow and connect is what makes this conference so great.

While all subgroups of the third committee have different specialized topics they are focusing on, each resolution will establish the participation of civil societies in the Americas as well as promoting basic human rights within communities that have none. One subgroup resolution is working on ensuring civil society's participation throughout the Americas. They will make sure that certain non-governmental organizations will participate in civil society. To accomplish this goal, the proposal will secure education program and extracurriculars, like arts, sports, and study, and inform civil societies that are marginalized of the possibilities of the OAS. The resolution will provide safety nets for militant groups in disadvantaged nations. This group, as well as the others, will work for the next two days to refine and perfect their resolution to present in front of the entire committee. On Friday, the third committee will vote on the best resolutions to implement.

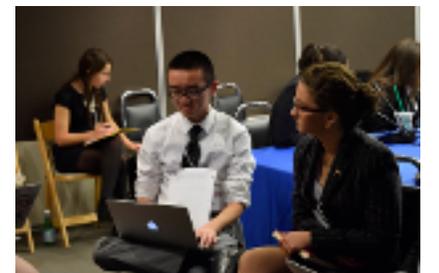
Third Committee Writer:
Juli Rudnick

Fourth Committee
Chair: Tanner Matott
Vice Chair: Katharine Hornish

Delegates from Fourth Committee began the day by presenting their opening statements. Following that, all of the delegates split into working groups to form resolutions.

Some of the major issues that the delegates of Fourth Committee included illegal taking of resources, pollution of water, and lack of environmental education. Fourth Committee Head Chair, Tanner Matott, sat down with the press to share some of his goals for this year's event. When asked what he would like to see accomplished in Fourth Committee he said, "I'd like to see the majority of the resolutions be passed and see productive work. I want everyone to come together as one, problem solve, and build friendships." When asked about his decision to run for chair he replied, "I didn't want to be a delegate anymore. I like being in power. My favorite part is seeing everyone work together." The Fourth Committee is working hard to craft their resolutions and excited to debate them as a group tomorrow.

Fourth Committee Writer:
Sophia Copeland



Photographer Grace Hinds &
Angella Paez Galvez