

**TWENTY-FOURTH MODEL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

November 30 to December 3, 2005



N E W S L E T T E R

**SPONSORED BY
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT
OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

Washington, D.C.

Dear Faculty Advisors and Students participating in the 24th Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools :

I welcome your participation in the Twenty-fourth Model Organization of American States General Assembly (MOAS) for High Schools and hope that this Newsletter will help you complete preparations for this exercise. I would like to convey my gratitude to the returning and to the new Faculty Advisors. Without the faculty efforts and support we would not be able to provide this enriching experience to our students. I also extend my welcome and appreciation to the elected officers and to all the participating students for their hard work and enthusiasm and for their interest in being part of this unique experience in international diplomacy and policy-making.

I look forward to welcoming you on the 1st of December, and I am confident that this will be a very enriching learning experience for all of you.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Irene Klinger
Director, Department of Communications and External Relations
Organization of American States
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**TWENTY-FOURTH MODEL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FOR HIGH SCHOOLS**

N E W S L E T T E R

1. As all participants are aware the 24th MOAS for High Schools will be held from November 30 to December 3, 2005, in the OAS Main and General Secretariat buildings, located at 17th Street and Constitution Avenue and 1889 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20006, telephone Number: (202) 458-6897.
2. Officers for the 2005 Model OAS General Assembly who were elected at the 2004 Model are:

PRESIDENT:

Beverly Mbu
The Madeira School
McLean, VA

SECRETARY GENERAL:

Sam Klock
Springfield Township High School
Erdenheim, PA

ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL:

Barzin Nabet
Springfield Township High School
Erdenheim, PA

GENERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Beverly Mbu
The Madeira School
McLean, VA

FIRST COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Claire McLaughlin
Midland Senior High School
Midland, TX

FIRST COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR:

Sarah Bartle
Wilmington Friends School
Wilmington, DE

SECOND COMMITTEE "A" CHAIR:

Justin Zubrod
Georgetown Preparatory School
North Bethesda, MD

SECOND COMMITTEE "A" VICE CHAIR:

Ashley Kowalski
Mercy High School
Baltimore, MD

SECOND COMMITTEE "B" CHAIR:

Alex Bell
Trinity School of Midland
Midland, TX

SECOND COMMITTEE "B" VICE CHAIR:

Amy Renaud
Midland Senior High School
Midland, TX

THIRD COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Meagan Wayland
Midland Senior High School
Midland, TX

THIRD COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR:

Kelsey Clark
Midland Senior High School
Midland, TX

The position of the Model OAS Officers was entrusted upon them by the will of the majority in their respective committees last year. This in itself is quite an honor, which entails serious responsibilities. Since the way officers perform their duties will greatly affect the extent to which your experience in Washington is a positive one, we encourage all MOAS participants to give them their full support and cooperation.

3. The MOAS Secretary General and the MOAS Assistant Secretary General will be working in close cooperation with the Coordination Office and the Model OAS General Secretariat Staff in order to ensure that the proceedings run smoothly and efficiently. In addition, the MOAS Secretary General will act as the host for the Reception and Master of Ceremonies at the Closing Ceremony.
4. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Irene Klinger, Director of Communications and External Relations of the OAS, responsible for the MOAS Program at the OAS, will welcome the student delegates on Thursday, December 1, 2005, at 9 a.m. in the Hall of the Americas. Dr. Klinger will introduce the keynote speaker, Dr. José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the Organization.

5. This year the Key-note speaker for the Closing Ceremony will be Ambassador John Maisto, Permanent Representative of the United States to the OAS. Amb. Maisto has graciously accepted our invitation to address the participants of this 24th MOAS on Saturday, December 3, at 3:00 PM.
6. Students from Glen Burnie High School will constitute the **MOAS COMMUNICATIONS CENTER**, designed to keep participants informed of proceedings and other related newsworthy events. The Center will issue communiqués daily for distribution to the participants. Your cooperation in providing information on the advances made at committee sessions will contribute greatly to the success of its efforts.

Student delegations may want to hold press conferences to clarify their countries' positions. MOAS press conferences will follow this format: a four-minute opening statement by the delegation's spokesperson, succeeded by a six-minute question- and answer-period for the MOAS Communications Center Staff only. All delegations should do their best to send a representative to each Press Conference in order to keep abreast of other member nations' special concerns.

Delegations interested in holding press conferences must put in a request as soon as possible to the Chief Communications Officer in order to arrange for a time and a place, and other details.

7. We are pleased to announce that the staff support for this 24th Model will be provided by the cooperative efforts of Georgetown Preparatory School and Midland Senior High School. They will serve as the **MOAS GENERAL SECRETARIAT STAFF**. We extend our sincere gratitude in anticipation for their help.
8. The Gala Reception is scheduled for December 2, 2005, from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Come prepared to eat a little and dance a lot to the beat of DJ "Jota" and a professional dance instructor who will provide a half-hour lesson on Latin dances at 8:30 pm. (sharp). We hope that all participants are planning to attend. Dress as diplomats do for this occasion!! **(PLEASE NO T-SHIRTS, JEANS, OR TENNIS SHOES.)**
9. The OAS/MOAS coordination staff has made every possible effort to schedule briefings by the Permanent Missions in Washington for the mornings of Wednesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 1, 2005. Scheduling is conditioned by the availability of Mission staff. Participants will be informed by e-mail of their country briefings and also information on this will be noted in the Twenty-fourth MOAS Program, to be included in their packets of information and will be distributed at the registration desk.
10. We hope that registration information with delegate names and committee assignments have already been sent to us to ensure proper processing of I.D cards, certificates of participation, and other documentation. We need this information well in advance if the above-mentioned items are to be ready in time for registration. If you have not mailed this information yet, you must contact us immediately by phone at (202) 458-6897/6891 or e-mail: nrobinson@oas.org; bgeorge@oas.org. Please be ready to spell each delegate's name and inform us of his or her exact position in the delegation.

11. Had a delegation not sent its REQUEST TO DELIVER GENERAL STATAMENTS before the beginning of the MOAS, its Head Delegate should contact the General Committee Rapporteur to do so. If not, we will assume that Head delegates WILL NOT BE MAKING ONE.
12. High Schools participating in the Model will be staying at the Washington Plaza Hotel. The OAS General Secretariat and the hotel management will be most grateful if students lodging at the hotel observe the house rules at all times. Please be considerate of other guests at the hotel.
13. The following meetings have been scheduled:

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2005

- 1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Coordination Meeting between the MOAS Coordinator and the Steering Committee (**Hall of the Americas**)
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Committee chairs, vice chairs, rapporteurs and, faculty advisors assigned for resolution evaluation with MOAS Coordinator and OAS consultants (**Columbus Room – Main Building**)
- 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Communications Center staff and General Secretariat staff meeting with MOAS Coordinator (**Columbus Room**)
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. **Simulation of Debate**
by students from
Connelly School of the Holy Child
- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. **WORKSHOPS:**
Workshop # 1 - General Secretariat Staff Workshop: (Mandatory for the General Secretarial delegation, chairs and vice-chairs, and the Communications Center delegation) Sponsored by the MOAS Coordination Office and conducted by the Inter-American Studies Foundation (MOAS Foundation)
- Workshop # 2 - Small Group Simulation of resolution debate:** (Conducted by Faculty Advisors assigned to the committees and committee chairs) A committee chair will lead each group (minimum of 5 students, maximum of 10). Review of Modus Operandi using predetermined simulation resolution, students can informally practice speaking, get rid of pre-model jitters, ask questions
- Workshop # 3 – Resolution Writing:** (MOAS Coordinator, OAS consultants and designated Faculty Advisors will be conducting this Workshop). Bring your resolution for a critique of both form and substance. Get tips on supporting and criticizing ideas during committee sessions. Learn about CREATING CONSENSUS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005

12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m. Working Lunch for Resolution Evaluation Committee (First Resolution Evaluation Session for Committee chairs, vice chairs, rapporteurs, assigned Faculty Advisors, and OAS Consultants – (GSB TL 76)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2005

12:00 noon-2:00 p.m. Lunch and Faculty Advisors' Annual Meeting – GSB TL 76

14. Only registered delegates, alternates, and rapporteurs may be candidates for elected office at the Model Assembly. Nomination forms for President, Secretary General, Assistant Secretary General, Committee Chairs, and Vice Chairs for the Twenty-fifth MOAS (2006) are attached to this Newsletter. Completed forms are to be turned in to Committee Rapporteurs as soon as possible.

The Coordination Office encourages student delegates who feel that they are particularly qualified to run as candidates to prepare their personal resumes for distribution as campaign material. Please see MOAS Rules of Procedure, Articles 10, 40, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, and 80.

15. For committee sessions to begin promptly, delegates are requested to come to the Model with their draft resolutions ready for presentation. These draft resolutions are to be submitted to their respective Committee Officers during the established deadlines.
16. Student delegations must attend all officially scheduled conferences, meetings, and ceremonies for the entire duration of the Model. Should conditions make it necessary to leave any event early, authorization must be obtained in advance from the Coordination Office.
17. Student delegates are expected to remain in their assigned country's character at all times. They are to do their best to advocate the interests of their respective country, rather than voice their own personal viewpoints. In addition, participants should keep in mind that the Model is a simulation of the highest-ranking meeting of the inter-American system, attended by diplomats. Therefore, they are expected to dress and act accordingly.
18. By now, all students attending the Twenty-fourth Model OAS should have been assigned to one of the five Model OAS General Assembly committees either as the delegate or the alternate. The student must retain his/her position for the entire duration of the Model, and individuals should not be switched from one committee to another or from one position to another at the last moment. This practice weakens the academic level of debate in the committee in question and shows a lack of respect for other delegates who, from the very beginning, have had a specific assignment and are well prepared for serious participation in the proceedings. Needless to say, it is discouraging as a delegate to find one sitting next to someone that has just been assigned and has no knowledge of the issues at hand, whatsoever. No student can be assigned as a delegate "AT LARGE" to the Model OAS General Assembly.

19. The OAS will not provide any meals to participants during the Model. There are, however, a number of inexpensive eating establishments located near OAS headquarters. A sample listing includes:

GENERAL SECRETARIAT BUILDING

Cafeteria-Lower Level
Selected providers offering Latin American food, sandwiches and salads
1889 F Street, NW
Hours: 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.

OAS MAIN BUILDING

“Café Azteca” (ext. 3019)
17th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW
Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

OLD POST OFFICE PAVILLION

Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street, NW
Hours: All day long (including weekends)

ROY ROGERS

2023 I Street, NW
Corner of 20th and Pennsylvania Avenue
Hours: All day long (including weekends)

WENDY’S

1725 K Street, NW
Between Connecticut Ave. and 18th Street
Hours: All day long (including weekends)

McDONALD’S

750 17th Street, NW
Between Pennsylvania Ave. and H Street
Hours: All day long (including weekends).

20. REMINDERS:

- a. We are unable, **WITHOUT EXCEPTION**, to provide parking spaces for participants or their Faculty Advisors.

Any unauthorized vehicle parked on OAS property will be towed promptly and at owner’s expense!!

- b. The OAS is not responsible for lost or stolen articles, nor will it replace programs, copies of draft resolutions or publications once they have been distributed to participants.

- c. This year the OAS will provide 1 computer per committee with its printer for the use of student delegates. Please limit your time in consideration of others and use only the computer assigned to your committee. In addition, there are a few electric outlets for those who may wish to bring their own lap tops.
21. The following is a collection of pointers and suggestions for Model Assembly participants. Please read them carefully, and be certain that there is a uniform understanding of their implications and significance:
- a. **Due to changes in the format of the actual OAS General Assembly, the Model OAS is divided in two parts: The first part takes place during the first two days of the Model and serves as the Preparatory Committees for the General Assembly, which in fact act as the Permanent Council of the Model OAS General Assembly. These Committees simulate the debate and the consideration of resolutions that the Permanent Council undertakes during each year. The second part of the Model, which takes place during the last day of the MOAS General Assembly, simulates the OAS General Assembly. This session includes time for the normal plenary sessions of the General Assembly, including a specific reserved time for the Dialogue of Heads of Delegations.**
 - b. **DEBATE** is to be formal. Ad hominem remarks will be vigorously discouraged, and their perpetrator will be ruled out of order forcefully. Delegates are to be courteous and are expected to address their colleagues in appropriate fashion at all times. **Personal pronouns are prohibited by delegates during debate.**
 - c. **DISCUSSION** is to be focused at all times. Debate can often disintegrate into a series of anecdotes, ad hominem remarks, or subjective revisions of history. Chairpersons will use their authority to direct discussion effectively and may rule speakers out of order if they deem it appropriate.
 - d. **ALL QUESTIONS**, whether they concern procedure or a delegation's remarks, are to be directed to the chairperson. If the question requires a delegate's response, the chairperson may direct the question to the appropriate delegate, at which time the delegate may decide whether or not to address the question. Direct questioning will be ruled out of order by the chairperson.
 - e. **COMMITTEE OFFICERS** are requested to be strict when accepting draft resolutions for consideration in their respective committees. Delegates are to make sure that their proposals meet all of the requirements. **All resolutions must be in a specific format that is explained in the handout "Guidelines and Checklist for Model OAS Resolutions"**. Only those resolutions that are clearly related to the topics on the agenda assigned to the committee in question may be introduced into the order of business.
 - f. Draft resolutions of similar content, instead of being discussed individually, will be referred back to their respective authors and the chairperson will then establish a **WORKING GROUP** that includes the various proponents. The group's task will be to combine the several draft resolutions into an acceptable compromise, to be submitted for

consideration as soon as possible. The resulting resolution of a working group must have the signatures of the delegates in the group and that of a Faculty Advisor. **Resolutions that are successfully achieved from working groups are a true reflection of the spirit of inter-American cooperation, and are a good indication of a delegation's ability to work cooperatively. All working group resolutions will be given special priority to ensure their consideration by each committee.**

- g. **THE FOLLOWING MOTION** will be made to your committee (except in the Third): That agenda topics be addressed in rotation. Hence, instead of exhausting one agenda topic before moving to the next, all topics will receive equal attention. Draft resolutions should be presented for discussion in a manner by which each of the member states (schools) is given fair access to the floor. Topics are to be skipped over if no resolutions are pending.
- h. **IN ACTUAL OAS SESSIONS**, speakers' lists are never limited. However, in the interest of time, you may wish to propose that a limit be established for your committee. Seven has proven to be a good number. Of course, should debate be particularly good (instructive and constructive), or if an issue merits extending the speakers' list, you may establish a provision whereby the chairperson may extend the list when necessary.
- i. **IN DISCUSSING A RESOLUTION**, its author speaks first. Should a resolution have cosponsors, one spokesperson should be identified.
- j. **THE DELEGATIONS SIGNING** a resolution are cosigners. Any two or more delegates presenting together a draft resolution for consideration are cosponsors and their countries' names should appear in the heading of said resolution. Please make sure that you take this into consideration when typing your final drafts.
- k. **DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES** may not switch places while a resolution is on the floor. See **Article 18, paragraph 2**, of the Rules of Procedure.
- l. **AN AMENDMENT** to a resolution is to be clearly written and promptly presented to the Rapporteur, who, when the time comes, will read it slowly and distinctly to the entire committee. Request the assistance of the Committee clerks in passing amendments to the Rapporteur.
- m. **TO CLARIFY YOUR UNDERSTANDING** of **Article 41** of the Rules of Procedure: **Article 41** of the Rules of Procedure is a determination to be made by the Chairman.
- n. **ONLY DELEGATES** on the speakers' list may propose amendments. No signatures are requested for amendments. Chairpersons will rule as to whether an amendment alters the original intent of the draft resolution in question.
- o. **AS OF JANUARY 1, 1990**, a majority in the OAS consists of 18 votes. 26 votes constitute two-thirds. **If all delegations are not present for the General Assembly, Article 43 applies.**

- p. **“SUSPENDING”** debate or a session means that the topic or session will be resumed at a later time. **“CLOSING”** debate leads to a vote on the resolution. One **“ADJOURNS”** the session at the end of the working day.
 - q. **THOROUGH PREPARATION** prior to the actual Model sessions is the only key to effective participation in this academic exercise. Those delegates relying upon last minute improvisation soon become obvious to all of those associated with this activity.
 - r. **TAKE ADVANTAGE** of the presence of *OAS Consultants* and *Technical Secretaries*. Do not hesitate to seek their assistance at any time.
22. This is by no means a total summary. It is inevitable that you will be challenged by unexpected situations. Please maintain your composure at all times!
23. If your delegation has been briefed by the Permanent Mission of your assigned country prior to the Model, please inform the Coordination Office.
24. **THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL LIBRARY** is open Monday through Thursday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Fridays, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please keep this in mind when planning to use publications in the collection.
25. Questions regarding the Model OAS General Assembly should be addressed to:

Ms. Nelly Robinson
Coordinator
Model OAS General Assembly
Office of External Relations and Resource Mobilization
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C. 20006
Telephone: (202) 458-6897
Fax: (202) 458-6832/6832
email: nrobinson@oas.org

N O M I N A T I O N F O R M

(Complete and return to Committee Rapporteur)

Candidate for:

- President of next Assembly^{1/} _____ (check)
- Secretary General of next Assembly^{1/} _____ (check)
- Assistant Secretary General of next Assembly^{1/} _____ (check)

- | | |
|--|---|
| Chairperson of First Committee _____ | Vice Chairperson First Committee _____ |
| Chairperson Second Committee "A" _____ | Vice Chairperson Second Committee "A" _____ |
| Chairperson Second Committee "B" _____ | Vice Chairperson Second Committee "B" _____ |
| Chairperson Third Committee _____ | Vice Chairperson Third Committee _____ |

Name of Candidate: _____
 Home Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 Country & Zip: _____
 Telephone: _____
 School: _____

Country represented: _____

Candidacy supported by the delegations of:

MEMBER NATION	DELEGATES SIGNATURE
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____

1. In the case of candidates for the offices of President, Secretary General, and Assistant Secretary General of the next Assembly, the signature must be that of the Head Delegate.

**MODEL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES
SHORT FORM**

MOTION	FUNCTION	DEBATE	VOTE APPEALABLE	ARTICLE
(In order of Precedence)				
Point of Order	Error in Procedure	PR	YES	51
If appealed		MAJ	NO	51
Suspend Session	Recess Meeting	MAJ	NO	60
Adjourn Session	Formally ends Meeting	MAJ	NO	60
Suspend Debate	Tables Debate 2F/2A	MAJ	NO	58
Closure of Debate	Ends Debate 2A	2/3	NO	59
OTHER MOTIONS				
Adopt/Change Agenda		2/3	NO	31
Reconsideration of Decisions		2/3	NO	51
Roll Call Vote			Immediately Granted	65
Voting by parts			Immediately Granted	72
If opposed a vote is taken		MAJ	NO	72
Elect Officers		MAJ	NO	74
Proposal or Amendment (Budgetary)	SL	2/3	NO	67 and 68
Proposal or Amendment	SL	MAJ	NO	67 and 68
Quorum for Debate		MAJ		43
Quorum for a Vote		2/3		43

Key: PR=President; MAJ=Simple Majority; F=For the Motion; A=Against the Motion; SL=Speaker's List in the order in which they request the floor.