

Grant Proposal for World Model United Nations Delegation 2008

This Grant Proposal provides detailed information about the World Model United Nations conference, the delegation from Chulalongkorn University as well as their budget. Please also have a look at the Appendix which includes the Delegation Profile and a letter of recommendation from the Department of International Relations of Chulalongkorn University.

About World Model United Nations (WorldMUN)

WorldMUN is one of the most authentic United Nations simulations in the world and is organized by Harvard University each year. Together with the local host university, Harvard organizes the conference in a different country every year to make it truly international. It is unlike almost any other model UN conference considering the international constituency of the WorldMUN delegates. Next year, WorldMUN will draw 1,800 college students from 5 continents and 60 nations including: South Korea, Egypt, Australia, Japan, USA, China, and many European nations.

The participants are spread among 21 official UN bodies, such as the Security Council, the SPECPOL or the UNICEF among others. In these committees, they will represent a given country and advocate its interests for a week. The WorldMUN, thus, offers a unique opportunity for the participants to discover the United Nations, perceive its goals and ambitions and experience, first-hand, the complexities and nuances of international negotiation and diplomacy.

The WorldMUN conference has been recognized by former UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali as “a thoughtful and welcome expansion in the scope and nature of the Model United Nations concept” as a way of “providing a closer and more realistic sense of the nature and working of the World Organizations”.

The resolutions passed in the committees of the WorldMUN will be passed on to the real United Nations as a recommendation from international students to diplomats in the international arena.

WorldMUN Conference in Puebla, Mexico 2008

The World Model United Nations conference in 2008 will take place in Puebla, Mexico from 24th of March to 28th of March. Harvard University has organized this in cooperation with Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla. It will bring together over 1,800 students from all over the world. This year’s conference will have the largest amount and variety of committees ever provided by a WorldMUN conference.

The committees will hold their sessions in the William O. Jenkins International Conference Centre of Puebla (ICCP). Sessions will be held all day every day, with a short lunch break in between. A resolution to at least one of the discussed topics must be passed by each committee by the end of the week.

During the one-week conference, there will still be time for in-conference visits such as a visit to the Pyramid to Cholula as well as a cultural visit to the major highlights in the city. There will also be social events including the Global Village – in which every delegation can present their country of origin in a creative way – and a Farewell Party.

WorldMUN Delegation 2008 of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok

During the past weeks, Chulalongkorn University has established its own delegation, consisting of four students from the International Relations Department at the Faculty of Political Science as well as one from the Graduate School.

The project was initiated by Dr. Panitan Wattanayagorn, Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations together with Sarah Elsing, a student from the Graduate School who has major experience concerning Model United Nations activities. In association with the Department of International Relations, four students were chosen from the Department of International Relations Department through a selection process, including interviews and a micro-simulation, to become part of the Chulalongkorn University Delegation 2008.

Please have a look at the Delegation Profile (Document 1 in the Appendix).

Preparation Process

During the past weeks, the Chulalongkorn University Delegation has started to prepare for the conference by practicing and developing their skills in negotiating different issues, writing and presenting speeches as well as studying in detail the United Nations' work in the international arena. Different techniques of delivering speeches are practiced and discussed regarding their usage in different situations and global issues are worked at in detail.

In addition to this, the delegation practices the procedural processes of the conference by performing micro-simulations in which each delegate represents a different country every time. As soon as the WorldMUN team of Harvard University and Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla have assigned countries and committees to the delegations in January, the Chulalongkorn University Delegation will start working on the specific committee issues and the given countries' policies in even greater detail.

During weekly meetings and a tight schedule, the delegation will continue to work hard in preparing for the conference in order to fulfill the conference's purposes of heightening global awareness, fostering international relations among college students, and bringing together tomorrow's leaders.

The delegation has also set up an internet website to present their work and progress during the preparation process – and later on during the conference – including pictures and a diary of their experiences.

Please have a look at the delegation's website at <http://groups.myspace.com/cudel08>

Seeking Assistance from the Ministry of Education

This is a unique possibility for Thai students together with students from abroad, altogether studying at Chulalongkorn University, to prepare thoroughly by practice and research, debate on international issues with university students from all over the world and eventually write a resolution on the issue. The conference not only fosters international relations among college students, but gives these students the opportunity to practice themselves in the field of diplomacy and negotiation. This delegation will be one of the first Thai University delegations ever attending a World Model United Nations and will make other countries even more aware of Thailand as an important Southeast Asian nation with a strong promotion of its academic sector. Therefore, the Chulalongkorn Delegation seeks assistance from the Ministry of Education not only to broaden their horizon in many ways and give them insight into the work of diplomats within the international arena.

Budget

Item	per person (Baht)*	For 5 persons (Baht)*
Round-trip Plane Tickets from Bangkok	≈ 80,000**	(4 persons) 320,000
Comprehensive Travel Insurance	≈ 1,120**	(4 persons) 4,480
Round-trip plane Ticket from Frankfurt (Including Travel Insurance)	≈ 40,000**	(1 person) 40,000
Roundtrip Transport between Mexico City airport and Puebla	867	4335
Accommodations (for entire conference)	5,902	29,510
Mexican Visa	(\$36 =) 1,214	6,070
Delegate Fee	(\$90 =) 3,035	15,175
Delegation Fee	/	(\$100 =) 3,373
Meals (3 per day for 1 week)	3,307	16,535
Conference-related Social Activities	2,047	10,235
Total	≈ 89,942***	449,713

* Budget estimated with exchange rate (USD-THB) from 11.12.07

** Costs of plane tickets depending on travel agency and availability at time of purchase;
travel insurance depending on travel agency

*** Average amount per person as calculated when dividing total delegation amount by 5.