

# PANAMUN XXV Closing Gaps



## **Respected MUN/Debate Director:**

The International School of Panama (ISP) is proud to invite you to join us for the 25th annual session of the Panama Model United Nations (PANAMUN), which will be held October 25-27, 2017 at the ISP campus in Panama City, Panama.

PANAMUN is the largest and oldest Model United Nations conference in Central America, and it is also the only conference in Panama affiliated to the prestigious THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) Organization.

Turning twenty-five years old is a very important milestone for our conference, and we are committed to deliver the best PANAMUN yet. Therefore, we are glad to present a new leadership structure that strives to improve every aspect of our conference. This year's Secretariat team will be comprised of:

- Felipe Félix Méndez (Secretary General)
- Mark Rauschkolb (Co-President of the General Assembly)
- Andrea Beltrán (Co-President of the General Assembly)
- Fabiana Avendaño (DSG for External Affairs)
- María Paula Marquez (DSG for Echopress)
- Dixie Waigel (DSG for Admin Staff)
- Austin Lopez (DSG for Marketing and Communications)

Our theme for PANAMUN XXV is *Closing Gaps*. In the past decade, Panama and several other nations in the Americas have experienced unprecedented economic growth. However, the benefits of this growth are not being shared by the population at large, resulting in greater inequity amongst all nations regardless of the region. The international community must unite to overcome challenges such as gaps in gender pay and technology, the millions of people who lack access to basic healthcare and education, as well as the issues that have stemmed from these inconsistencies. We encourage delegates to bring their diverse perspectives to Panama in order to address these issues in the name of those who suffer on a daily basis. It is our duty as a privileged youth to engage in a diplomatic discussion to lay the groundwork for a sustainable future.

This year, we will be offering the following committees:

#### **English:**

- United Nations Security Council (UNSC)\*
- International Court of Justice (ICJ)\*
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)
- Human Rights Council (HRC)
- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)
- Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee (SOCHUM)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Peacebuilding Commission (UNPBC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

#### **Español:**

- Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas (CSNU)\*
- Comisión Política Especial y de Descolonización (CPED)
- Comisión de Asuntos Económicos y Financieros (ECOFIN)
- Consejo de Derechos Humanos (CDH)
- Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra la Droga y el Delito (UNODC)

\*We will be accepting additional applications for Security Council (UNSC) and for the International Court of Justice (ICJ) from your more experienced delegates. This year, we have added a second Security Council to cater for the most experienced delegates who prefer to debate in Spanish. The application forms for special committees will be sent out shortly.

With the goal of reducing travel and accommodation costs, limited housing will be available for the first delegates who apply. Staying with ISP families has proven to be a rewarding experience for both the visiting delegates and the hosts, as they are able to interact beyond their usual circle of friends.

In addition to the enriching experience of PANAMUN, Panama City and its surrounding areas offer many cultural and outdoor opportunities to visitors and school groups. Our DSG of External Affairs will work with you to identify your requirements and put you in contact with the best people to facilitate your travel needs.

Below are the costs for participation in the conference:

School Delegation Fee: 260.00 USD Individual Delegate Fee: 100.00 USD MUN Director/Advisor Fee: 100.00 USD

(Fees include all conference materials, lunch for all three days and transportation to and from the PANAMUN affiliated hotel (Marriot Courtyard at the MultiPlaza) each day of the conference as well as transportation to and from the airport).

### Hotel Information: Marriot Courtyard at MultiPlaza Mall

Approximately \$100 (excluding taxes and fees) a night for double occupancy including breakfast. Approximately \$10 (excluding taxes and fees) for an additional person.

For those schools choosing to stay here our DSG External Affairs will be in touch with the discount code and the booking process. We will also post this information on our website.

We will be requiring 2 forms this year. A link to <u>Form I</u> can be found <u>here</u> as well as below and on our website: <u>panamun.org</u> (apply section). Form II will be sent out with your confirmation of registration email. It can also be found on our website.

Please submit all the forms by their respective deadlines.

- Form I is due by September 1, 2017 (a fee of 100.00 USD will be applied for late submissions.)
- Form II is due by September 15, 2017.

Once Form II is complete, the payment information will be sent out as well as information detailing delegate's positions. The full delegation payment will be due by the first day of the conference.

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the PANAMUN XXV Secretariat by email at <a href="mailto:secretariat@isp.edu.pa">secretariat@isp.edu.pa</a>, or visit our official website at <a href="www.panamun.org">www.panamun.org</a>. A secondary contact is ISP's MUN Director Mrs. Heather Mooney at <a href="mailto:hmooney@isp.edu.pa">hmooney@isp.edu.pa</a> In the coming weeks will be updating our website and all social media sites to reflect PANAMUN XXV: Closing Gaps.

We also encourage you and your delegates to follow us on our social media pages for updates on our officers' preparation and for pictures during the conference:

**Facebook: Panama Model United Nations (PANAMUN)** 

Humans of PANAMUN: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/humansofpanamun/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/humansofpanamun/?fref=ts</a>

Instagram: panamun Twitter: @panamun2016 Snapchat: panamun

We are very excited for this year's conference, and we look forward to hearing from your school.

Best regards,

Felipe Félix Méndez Secretary General PANAMUN XXV: Closing Gaps