

RUMMAN

Rutgers Model
United Nations

INFORMATION
AND REGISTRATION

12 - 15 NOVEMBER 2009



The mission of the Institute for Domestic & International Affairs, Inc. is to provide innovative educational opportunities to students of all ages so that they may better understand their role in global and domestic civic society.

IDIA believes that one person, if equipped with the proper tools can bring about positive social change. Through our Model United Nations, Model Congress, and Civics Education and Engagement programs, IDIA is developing the next generation of global leaders.

RUMUN Rutgers Model United Nations

Dear Delegates, Faculty, and Guests:

On behalf of the Institute of Domestic and International Affairs, Inc., I would like to invite you to join us at the eighteenth Rutgers Model United Nations to be held at the DoubleTree and Holiday Inn Hotels in Somerset, New Jersey from 12-15 November 2009. RUMUN 2009 is a four-day United Nations simulation conference that provides students with the opportunity to discuss topics of international concern through constructive debate with their peers. The conference will help students develop skills in communication and leadership, in addition to public speaking and problem solving, by challenging students to research the position of a state and present that opinion during the conference. Students will learn to work together to accomplish goals that are in the best interest of all. To provide this opportunity, our staff of highly-trained Rutgers students is committed to providing the most dynamic educational experience possible for students, advisors, and guests alike.

RUMUN 2009 asks students to analyze the human impact of the topics under discussion. The UN is composed of many states that, in turn, are composed of many individuals. But, when ambassadors meet to discuss issues, what happens to the voice of the individual, how are individuals able to affect the debate on the international level and how are they effected by the decisions made by the UN? By asking students to answer these questions during debate, the problems of the world become more personal and, instead of just words on a piece of paper, resolutions become living documents that affect Rwandan farmers, French police officers, and Canadian accountants. Students will leave RUMUN 2009 with a deeper understanding of the impact of international decisions on individuals and how those decisions are impacted by individuals throughout the entire world.

To provide this educational experience, RUMUN 2009 will offer several advanced committees in addition to traditional committees. The Department of Peace Keeping Operations will discuss the future of peacekeeping operations and their personal impact on different regions. The United Nations Volunteers will create programs for volunteering in the 21st century and work with the DPKO to help stabilize Sri Lanka. The EU Parliament will work to find an energy policy that is equal for all and redefine its relations with NATO. And, while these committees discuss their topics, the press corps and NGOs will be entering every committee to provide individuals with a voice on the international debate floor.

Registration for RUMUN 2009 will begin on 1 May 2009 on the IDIA website. It is imperative that you register your school early due to high demand and limited space. Feel free to explore the IDIA and RUMUN websites to better acquaint yourself with our program and the numerous committees we offer. We also provide a Conference Outreach Program, a program that brings members of our staff to your school to answer questions, explain the rules of procedure, and help your students prepare for the conference.

If at any time you have any questions or concerns about the registration process or the conference itself, please do not hesitate to contact us. I am extremely excited for your presence at RUMUN 2009 and wish you the best of luck until we meet again in November!

Sincerely,

Noah Gronlund-Jacob
Secretary-General
Rutgers Model United Nations 2009

Model United Nations

Located at the DoubleTree and Holiday Inn hotels in Somerset, New Jersey, Rutgers Model United Nations is a realistic simulation of the United Nations and its affiliated specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations. Students from across the country and around the world convene at a four-day conference to discuss and solve some of today's most pressing issues from the perspective of a United Nations delegate. By representing the nation of their school's choosing, RUMUN challenges students to learn, understand, and discuss difficult issues, often from a non-Western point of view.

In each committee, delegates debate issues from the provisional agenda and represent the beliefs and motives of nations from around the world. Through the art of international diplomacy and compromise, delegates formulate multinational resolutions designed to ameliorate the issue at hand. Delegates work to amend and pass resolutions through their own committees and have the chance of being heard before the entire General Assembly of the United Nations. In our Specialized and Advanced Committees, such as the Security Council, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and the EU Parliament, delegates follow modified UN rules to ensure international peace and security and to grant loan applications.

Delegates attending RUMUN are expected to arrive at the conference prepared. Before the conference, students receive committee briefs researched and written by conference staff. In addition to developing an in-depth understanding of the issues under discussion, students should also be able to formulate ideas and policy positions in the general interests of their nation. Students who attend Model United Nations conferences are usually those who are interested in international politics and diplomacy. More importantly, participants come to learn about the numerous global issues facing the world today.

In addition to intellectual gratification, delegates who excel in their committee sessions are recognized at the closing ceremony for their efforts. Awards are presented to students who take an active role in the work of their committee, who show exemplary preparation for the conference, and who best represent the mission of the program. Rutgers Model United Nations provides students with an educational opportunity to learn about the world in which they live, and more importantly, to meet peers with similar interests from varying cultures.



Model United Nations is an opportunity for students to learn about the world around them, while learning about themselves. Instead of discovering issues of international importance from a textbook, they assume the role of diplomat and develop solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems. In the process, they learn important life skills like public speaking, research, consensus building, and conflict resolution.

RUMUN Services

RUMUN offers its participants many wonderful experiences. Our dedicated conference staff ensures individual attention to every student; advanced committees are limited to 15 - 30 students. Our staff of Rutgers students is well trained, having attended training sessions throughout the semester in preparation for the conference. They are experts in their topics, and are extremely familiar with parliamentary procedure. RUMUN is the ideal conference for both the beginner and advanced delegate.

Comprehensive Conference Website

At IDIA, we believe that the educational experience of RUMUN should not be limited to the four days during which the students will convene. RUMUN represents an opportunity for sustained learning and growth. We have developed an industry-leading website to promote participation both before and after the conference. Once a school is registered, students will receive individual usernames granting them access to the IDIA Conference Portal System where they will find a host of research and conference preparation resources including research links and information regarding relevant books and journals. They can also upload their position papers and download those from other states, offering them the opportunity to learn about other conference participants before the weekend even begins.

Civics Education and Engagement

One person, if equipped with the proper tools can bring about positive social change. RUMUN is more than the typical debate competition or Model United Nations conference. Each of our topics is specifically chosen because it represents an area in which students can become involved. Rather than exploring issues through benign deliberation and debate, they will have the opportunity to access resources and contacts through which they can engage with the topics, making the experience more than just an academic exercise.

Training Sessions

The opening day of RUMUN 2009 will feature training sessions for both novice and advanced delegates. Chaired by seasoned directors, two separate sessions will acquaint novices with the rules of debate, and advanced debaters with diplomatic tactics and strategies. These sessions will ensure that all students are well prepared for the weekend.

In-House News Program

In cooperation with the International Press Corps at the conference, RUMUN will debut an in-house news program designed to specifically cover issues of importance to delegates. Including interviews and informational reporting, RUMUN-Span will offer students the opportunity to better understand the role of the news media, and to understand what is happening throughout the rest of the conference. Rather than spending four days in a bubble, delegates will be able to learn from RUMUN-Span, and will be challenged to integrate this information into their committee proceedings.

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United Nations

International Press Corps

RUMUN is not only for students interested in politics and in solving global problems. Our International Press Corps offers budding journalists the chance to better develop their reporting skills.

The media is more than just about reporting events in an informative nature. At RUMUN, the International Press Corps reports on events as they unfold, but is also involved in the proceedings of different committees. Rather than waiting for news to happen, RUMUN reporters find out the news, learning about investigative journalism. Each day, they distribute the widely-read RUMUN Review to the entire conference.



Conference Facilities

Conference Facilities

This year, RUMUN will move to the DoubleTree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center and the Holiday Inn Hotel in Somerset, New Jersey. Combined, these hotels will house RUMUN's 24 committees, ensuring that all delegates are comfortable, and have access to further research resources.

Hotel Facilities

Conference housing for RUMUN will be either at the **DoubleTree Hotel**, or at **Holiday Inn Hotel**, the same locations as the conference, itself. The hotels are conveniently located just a 10-15 minute walk from each other. Both hotels are recently renovated, with comfortable sleeping rooms and accommodations. Restaurants are available in each hotel, affording students the opportunity to eat during non-conference periods.

In order to assist you in preparing for the conference, IDIA manages all reservations with the conference hotels. We have negotiated the best possible rates, and have passed these savings on to your schools. Even better, all you need to do is input your rooming list information through our website, and we will handle it from there!

Meal Plan

For the first time, RUMUN will feature an optional meal plan for participating delegates. Covering dinner on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, and breakfast on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, the meal plan will offer delegates a varied selection focusing on nutritious foods. Menus have been specifically selected to include salads, pastas, sandwiches, wraps, and traditional fare.

Those who do not wish to take advantage of the meal plan will be required to either order food for delivery, or visit local restaurants. IDIA will be happy to assist in this process, however we cannot guarantee timely delivery of food. Please note that there are *limited* food options in the area. Participation in the meal plan is strongly recommended.

A conference can only be as good as the hotel facility in which it is held. Combined, the DoubleTree and Holiday Inn hotels have more than 30 meeting rooms. There is ample space for committee debate and individual deliberation!

Committee Information

General Assembly

Disarmament and International Security

- Responsibility to Act Against Terrorism
- Arms Trade in Conflict Regions

Economic and Financial

- Economic Models for Relief in Post-Conflict Regions
- Economic Impact of Oil Dependence

Social, Humanitarian And Cultural

- Preservation of Dying Languages
- Human Rights in the Fight Against Terrorism

Special, Political, and Decolonization

- Freedom of Expression at the International Level
- International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Legal

- Accountability of United Nations Officials
- Extradition and Rendition

EcoSoc and Specialized Agencies

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

- International Approach to Organized Crime
- Criminal Justice Reform for Capital Crimes

Commission on Sustainable Development

- Combating Desertification
- Urban Agriculture

Commission on the Status of Women

- Women in Armed Conflict
- Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

Food and Agriculture Organization

- Adaptation Potential of Sustainable Farming Systems
- Post-Emergency Food System Recovery

International Atomic Energy Agency

- Nuclear Fuel Bank
- Nuclear Energy for Non-Electrical Applications

UN Children's Fund

- Prevention of Childhood Diseases
- Birth Registration

UN Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization

- Commercialization of the Human Body
- Cultural Reconstruction in Post-Conflict Regions

UN Environment Programme

- International Protection of Migratory Species
- Sustainable Water Management

UN High Commission on Refugees

- Reintegration of Protracted Refugees and Preventing *Refoulement*.
- Protection of Refugee Camps

Universal Postal Union

- Environmental Impact of Mail
- The Future of Mail in a Technological World

World Health Organization

- Preventing Childhood Diseases
- Impact of Aging Populations on National Policies

World Trade Organization

- Aid for Trade
- Admission of China to the World Trade Organization

How are topics chosen for the conference? What sort of information will we receive?

Each year, conference managers select discussion topics that are timely and that represent the broader educational goal of the conference. RUMUN 2009 will offer students the chance to explore the relationship between the United Nations, and its individual constituents around the world.

In September, delegates will have access to comprehensively researched topic briefs from the IDIA website. These briefs frame the topics for the conference offering significant historical background, but are not meant to substitute for individual student research. The IDIA Conference Portal System offers students a wealth of research and preparation materials as they begin their own research efforts.

Advanced Committees

Department of Peacekeeping Operations

- Reform of Peacekeeping Operations
- Establishing a Peacekeeping Operation in Sri Lanka

EU Parliament

- Energy Policy in the European Union
- EU-NATO Relations

International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

- Trial of Radovan Karadzic
- Future of the ICTY

International Press Corps

Non-Governmental Organizations Corps

Students in the Non-Governmental Organizations Corps will represent international advocacy agencies in committees throughout the conference. These delegates will achieve a greater understanding of how international advocacy groups affect global policy.

Security Council

- Human Rights Abuses in Sri Lanka
- Improving International Criminal Tribunals

United Nations Volunteers

- Volunteering in the 21st Century
- Problems with Volunteering in Sri Lanka

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United Nations

What are Advanced Committees?

Advanced committees are designed to offer experienced delegates with a more intensive conference experience.

Typically limited to about fifteen students, these committees address topics not from the perspective of the broader United Nations, but instead from the position of bodies like the Security Council, United Nations Volunteers, or the EU Parliament.

What type of student should be assigned to advanced committees?

Given their smaller nature, advanced committees should be reserved, as their name implies, to students with Model United Nations or other debate experience. Perhaps more importantly, students assigned to these committees should have specific knowledge or interest in the topics being discussed.

A student in the EU Parliament, for example, should have a meaningful understanding of European Politics, whereas someone in the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia should have an interest in war crimes.



Opportunities for Learning

Rutgers Model United Nations offers students the opportunity to learn about international affairs in a fun and interesting way, but to be sure, the program offers tremendous potential for the development of important life skills that will be valuable to them as they enter college and beyond.

Consensus Building and Conflict Resolution

Diplomacy is not an easy art -- if it were, then there would be no reason for a conference such as this. Delegates will be faced with representing a state while discussing a pressing global issue, and over the course of the weekend, will be called upon to develop resolutions to address those issues. In order to do so, they must learn to be at once persuasive, selling other states on their ideas, and equally conciliatory, mediating among states with radically different ideas.

Research Strategies and Information Synthesis

RUMUN topic briefs are designed to frame conference issues for students and to provide them with the historical context necessary to understand the root causes of these problems. Where the brief ends, the work of the delegate begins. Students are expected to conduct their own research to understand their own state's position on the issue and to identify strategies that have been implemented in the past. The more work they do for the conference before they arrive, the better prepared they will be to take an active role during committee sessions.

Advocacy and Engagement

The Model United Nations program is incomplete when viewed merely as a debate program. RUMUN is designed to offer students the opportunity to learn about issues important to them, and to then identify ways to get involved. Over the course of the weekend, guest speakers representing advocacy other non-governmental organizations will visit the conference to offer their first-hand, real world experience in working on the issues being discussed at RUMUN. After the conference, students are strongly encouraged to get involved in issues that they find important.

Are there only learning opportunities for students? What do Faculty Advisors get out of RUMUN?

RUMUN is actually designed for both students and teachers, alike. The Model United Nations program concept is not limited to a conference setting, and aspects of it can be implemented in your classroom. IDIA offers its topic briefs to teachers free of charge, and offers support in developing lesson plans or innovative ways of teaching difficult subjects.

In addition to our topic briefs, during the conference IDIA hosts the Professional Development Program, offering faculty members specific ideas and concrete lesson plans for use in the classroom. As a registered provider of continuing education in the State of New Jersey, participating teachers are eligible for professional development hours.

Registration Information

Pre-Registration

Registration begins on 1 May 2009 at the IDIA website at <http://www.idia.net>. Since the conference quickly reaches capacity, we urge you to register your school early. Delegations for both GA/Specialized Agencies and Advanced Committees are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Delegation assignments will be made based upon the postmark date of the pre-registration payment. The pre-registration fee is non-refundable upon assignment of a delegation. Within the GA/Specialized Agencies, students may work alone or in pairs. Therefore, total student representation for each delegation in GA/ Specialized Agencies should be 17-34 students. No school may bring more than 75 students total.

Schools must register for at least one delegation in GA/Specialized Agencies before requesting Advanced Committee seats. Schools may register for as many or as few advanced committees as desired. Schools may register *one* student per advanced committee. Where applicable, schools may represent the same delegation in advanced committees as they do in the GA/Specialized Agencies. This representation is neither required nor guaranteed.

Final Registration

The deadline for full payment, committee and rooming lists, and permission slips is 1 October 2009. Website forms will be available 14 September 2009 to complete the registration process. *Placement at the DoubleTree and Holiday Inn Hotels is not guaranteed, and will be based upon receipt of final payment and completed committee and rooming assignments.* Full payments not received by the 1 October 2009 deadline will be assessed a \$100 late fee. No refunds will be given after 19 October 2009.

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Rutgers Model
United Nations

What should I know about the IDIA Website?

IDIA recently completed a comprehensive upgrade of its website to provide both delegates and advisors with the tools and information necessary to effectively prepare for the conference. Faculty advisors may complete the entire registration process online. As the conference approaches, students and advisors will have access to comprehensively researched topic briefs, continuously updated research links, academic journals and books, and access to position papers from other delegates attending the conference.

And to make attending future conferences easier, information is automatically saved from conference to conference -- There's no need to re-input student names or information! Just drag them over and assign them to their new committees.

How does the Registration Process work?

The entire conference registration process takes place through IDIA's industry-leading website at <http://www.idia.net>. Once you have created an account, you will be able to register for RUMUN, including all GA/Specialized Agencies and Advanced Committees. The website automatically updates to show which delegations are available in each committee at the conference.



Registration Information

The preliminary registration fee for RUMUN 2009 is \$125.00 per delegation. This fee entitles your school to register for one delegation in each of the GA/Specialized Agencies. For no additional fee, schools may register for the Advanced Committees, on a first-come, first-served basis.

The preliminary registration fee is due by 15 July 2009, however, the conference will likely reach its capacity before this deadline.

The preliminary registration fee is nonrefundable upon assignment of a delegation.

The Conference fee for RUMUN 2009 is \$90.00 per delegate. Students who choose to commute need only remit the \$90.00 conference fee. Accommodations at the conference is an additional \$155.00 per delegate. The total cost per delegate for RUMUN 2009 is \$245.00.

A meal plan option will be available for students. Information about the meal plan is available at <http://www.idia.net>

Pursuant to New Jersey *per diem* requirements, the chaperone hotel fee is \$342.00 (\$114/nt). Up to 4 advisors or chaperones can share a single room at no additional charge. There is an additional chaperone conference fee of \$83 *per room*. Total chaperone fees are therefore \$425 *per room*.

Full payment is due no later than 1 October 2009.

A Late Fee of \$100.00 will be assessed to all late

Delegate/Advisor full payments.

\$245 per student? That seems like a lot. What's included?

Remember, that sum covers both conference *and* hotel costs. At RUMUN, you don't need to arrange your own hotel accommodations. Our long-standing relationships with the conference hotel and already with the Heldrich Hotel have resulted in the lowest possible rates, and we have passed that savings along to you. If you were to do a total cost comparison, you will surely find that RUMUN is actually cheaper than most comparable programs.

At IDIA, we strive to provide the best possible program and the lowest possible cost. At just \$61.25 per day, RUMUN represents a tremendous value for all participants.

Schedule of Events

TENTATIVE

Thursday, November 12, 2009

3:00pm	Check-In Begins
4:30pm-5:00pm	Novice & Advanced Training Sessions
5:30pm-7:00pm	Welcome Reception and Exhibition
8:00pm-11:30pm	Committee Session I
11:45pm	Delegate Curfew

Friday, November 13, 2009

9:00am-12:00pm	Committee Session II
12:00pm-2:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm-6:00pm	Committee Session III
6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Dinner
8:00pm-11:30pm	Committee Session IV
11:45pm	Delegate Curfew

Saturday, November 14, 2009

7:00am-8:00am	Religious Services (upon request)
9:00am-12:30pm	Committee Session V
12:30pm-2:00pm	Lunch
2:00pm-6:00pm	Committee Session VI
6:00pm-8:00pm	Dinner
8:00pm-12:00am	Delegate Social Events
12:30am	Delegate Curfew

Sunday, November 15, 2009

7:00am-8:00am	Religious Services (upon request)
9:00am-10:30am	Committee Debriefing Sessions
10:30am-12:00pm	Advocacy and Engagement Workshops
1:00pm-2:30pm	Closing Ceremonies

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United Nations

What happened to Plenary Sessions?!!?

Plenary sessions play an important role in the realistic representation of the United Nations, however our own experience has shown that the time could be spent more effectively.

Instead of general sessions for all conference participants, RUMUN 2009 will feature targeted discussions among relevant groups to reflect on how the United Nations impacts the lives of average citizens throughout the world. Students will be asked to take on varying roles to better understand how the United Nations serves the interests of states and individual constituents.

9AM until 11:30 PM, those seem like long days.

One of the advantages of RUMUN is the intense environment that the conference provides. Long days do result in tired delegates, but they also result in better results, and a more meaningful understanding of the topics. Our conference staff prides itself on individual attention with delegates. Moreover, we strive to develop resolutions that develop innovative solutions to ongoing problems. RUMUN is not about establishing new commissions or study groups. It is about bringing people together to develop long-lasting solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Rolling

Deadline for Initial Registration

- RUMUN Online Registration (www.idia.net)
- Registration Payment

14 September 2009

The following materials will be made available online:

- Delegate Guide
- Committee Briefs
- Payment Forms
- Rooming Lists
- Permission Slips

1 October 2009

Final Deadline

Full Payment

Submission of:

- Payment Forms
- Rooming Lists
- Committee Assignments

**A \$100 Late Fee will be assessed
to all late payments**

1 November 2009

Online Submission of Position Papers

No refunds of any kind will be issued after 1 November 2009.

12 - 15 November 2009

RUTGERS MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2009

**My school starts club activities later than most, and I need to miss one of these deadlines.
Is that ok?**

Of course. We recognize that schools operate on different schedules, and we also understand that as an advisor, planning a Model UN trip is not your only responsibility. If you think you need to miss a deadline or need an extension, please do not hesitate to contact Anthony McMichael, IDIA's conference registration coordinator. He will be happy to assist you however possible to make RUMUN a rewarding experience for everyone involved.

To contact Anthony, please either call +1 (732) 249-4227, or email him directly at: anthony.mcmichael@idia.net.



IDIA was founded in 1992 by a group of Rutgers University students who saw the need to expand education opportunities in the field of international relations. Their first project, Rutgers Model United Nations, brought together some two hundred students from local high schools to discuss UN-related issues. Later, Rutgers Model Congress offered students the opportunity to learn about Congress outside of the traditional school classroom.

Since then, IDIA has developed into the leading civics education and engagement organization on the East Coast. Serving students across the United States, and indeed around the world, IDIA is based upon the belief that one person, if equipped with the right tools, can bring about positive social change. Since its founding, IDIA has positively impacted more than 30,000 students, offering them important life skills such as consensus building, public speaking, research synthesis, and leadership development.

Our programs are not merely limited to simulations like Model Congress and Model United Nations and not even just to the United States. IDIA's capacity building program sends veteran IDIA staff members to work with local organizations so that they may better develop their resources. The Students Talking about Education Policy (STEP) program offers young people the opportunity to speak with policymakers regarding their feelings on education issues, most specifically No Child Left Behind.

As IDIA programming continues to expand, we recognize the importance of maintaining a representative cross-section of the greater population. In each of our initiatives, we provide opportunities for scholarships and sponsorships to ensure that all interested students, regardless of economic background, are able to actively participate in our programs.

For more information about IDIA, please visit our website at <http://www.idia.net>. To get involved, please contact us at information@idia.net, or +1 (732) 249-4227

**The Institute for Domestic & International Affairs, Inc.
55 Raritan Ave., Suite 2-283
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904 USA**

