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FAUMUN

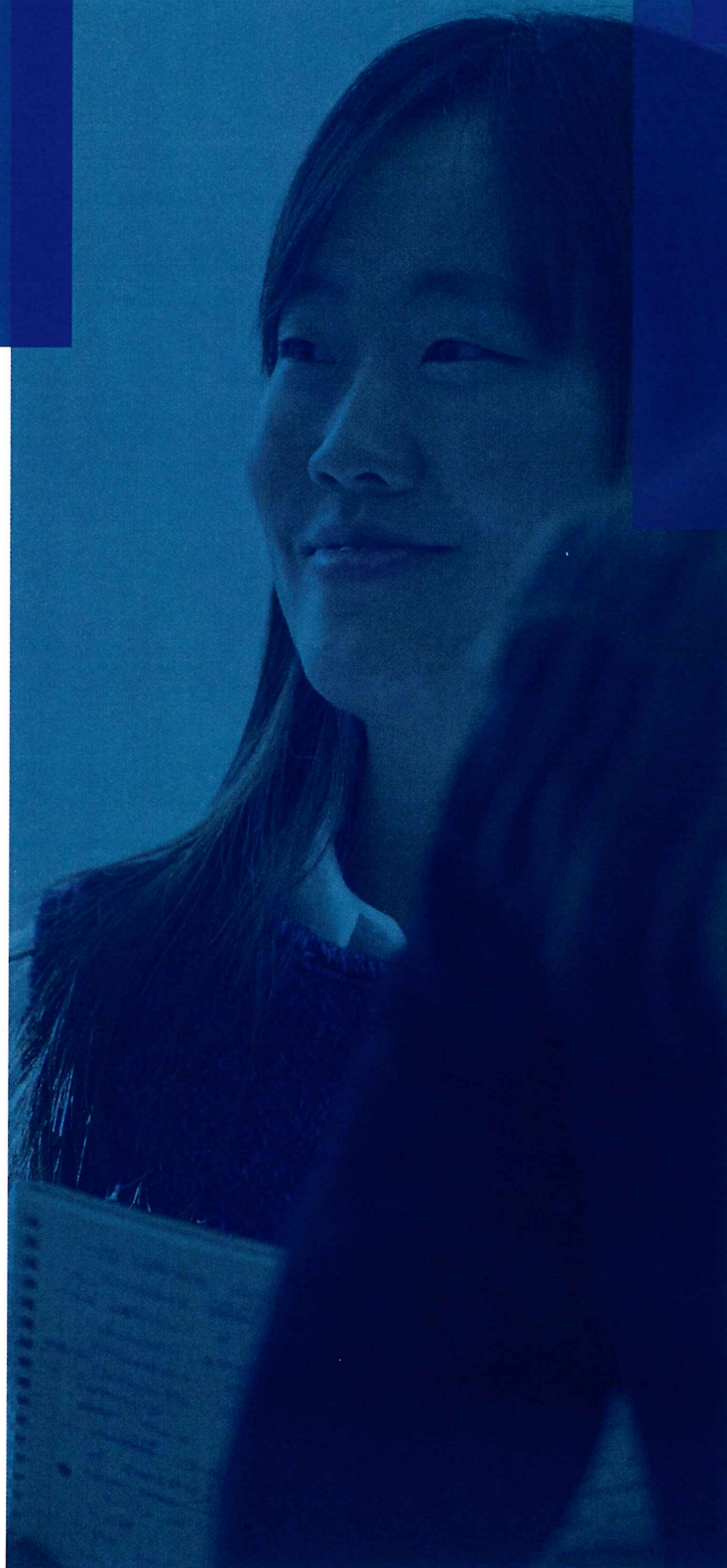
Annual report 2017



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Dear readers,

10 years of FAUMUN is a success story. Since 2007, the university annually sends a student delegation to New York City. Being a university beacon project, FAUMUN has since then regularly managed to establish our university among the top five percent out of over 400 participating institutions. Not only is the project among the top three of 30 German universities, measured by the awards received, but through the current awarding as "*Outstanding Delegation*", it also positions itself at the international top once again.

I congratulate the team of the FAUMUN project on its ten-year anniversary and on the great success. The university is proud that the FAU delegation is able to establish itself so successfully at the peak of the represented universities at the world's largest UN simulation in New York every year.

Not least because of this success, we are pleased to support our students with the opportunity to prepare and participate in such a successful project like FAUMUN. In today's world, key qualifications are more important than ever in the day-to-day business environment. Hence with FAUMUN, the Center for Applied Philosophy of Science and Key Qualifications starts exactly at the right place. Students from the most various subject areas come together and within the context of this interdisciplinary seminar prepare themselves in order to represent the FAU at National Model United Nations (NMUN), the world's largest United Nations simulation. The students show strong commitment, invest time in learning important soft skills, prepare for a highly competitive environment with speech and negotiation training throughout the winter term, and practice productive exchange amongst intercultural groups.

I particularly encourage students to further use the opportunities Model United Nations has to offer, through which theory and practical experience of politics connect on the international stage. Even if they have to invest a lot of their free time. Their commitment does not only allow our students to apply and deepen the knowledge and skills they have acquired at our university on a large scale, but it also furthers team building – a strong team for the FAU.

I thank all partners and sponsors of the project. Please continue to take the path, which we have until now so successfully pursued together, with us and the FAUMUN project.

I am pleased that the students of FAU will continue to have the possibility of experiencing the work of the United Nations very closely and wish all the best to all participants for the future.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Joachim Hornegger
President of Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg



Dear interested readers,

It is an honor to present this year's annual report of the Model United Nations project at our university to you.

Year by year, we have the chance to meet new students at this incredible seminar and to observe their development during their participation. We are astonished at the progress that our delegates make through negotiation practice and public speaking on several conferences.

Our delegates entered this year with an incredible motivation, high expectations and even higher aims to reach. We are glad that they managed not only to win the highly rewarded Outstanding Delegation Award but also to reach their own personal goals.

FAUMUN always had a clear understanding of its own aim. As every other Model United Nations project, we try to be as successful as possible at the conferences we attend. But the character of such a project often lies in the definition of success. It can be either the winning of awards, having fun or forming new friendships. Personal goals are what actually matters to us. We kindly invite you to read more about our understanding of Model UN together with the United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V. at page 15.

Now, it is not only time to say goodbye to the delegates of FAUMUN 2017, but after three years of participation and organization, it is time for both of us to say goodbye to the project. It was a pleasure for us to serve this project and we wish a lucky hand to all our successors and future FAUMUN delegates.

To all applicants for the next year: Feel invited to write and ask us everything and at any time via Facebook (FAUMUN) or via e-mail (organisation@faumun.org).

All the best,

Elisa Brocksieper Richard Endörfer

Elisa Brocksieper & Richard Endörfer
FAUMUN Project Management

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FAU
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InfoBOX

Did you know?

We spread different "Info BOXes" throughout the whole journal. Watch out for them, read them and you will find interesting information about what is going on behind the scenes of FAUMUN. Find out about partners, facts, experts and much more...

BEHIND THE SCENES - BEHIND THE



The Program





Model UN is one of the best ways to improve your public speaking skills. Each year, our participants have to work through an intensive two-day training where they deliver countless speeches and get used to speak openly, with self-confidence and without state fright in front of a large audience. Nevertheless, this is only one of the intensive weekend seminars at FAUMUN, besides the negotiation training, teambuilding, communication and presentation training. However, soft skill education is not enough. Together with experts of the FAU, this years' delegation has been perfectly prepared to represent Kuwait and Egypt at National Model United Nations in New York City. ■

From students to delegates

by Caroline Dietrich

The new delegation met for the first time



On October 21, 20 well-dressed students met in the chimney hall of the Villa St. Paul in Nuremberg. Until then, most of us had never met, which meant that we as individuals would have yet to become a delegation that could represent Kuwait and Egypt together. Project Manager Richard Endörfer, Content Manager Elisa Brocksieper and Head Delegates Priya George and Thomas Hohnholz had prepared a champagne brunch for everyone, which provided a pleasant atmosphere to get to know each other and launch FAUMUN 2017!

Since most of us were quite anxious to know what the day and the project would have in store for us, we discussed and shared our expectations and application experiences. We got the chance to talk to our co-delegates; some of us even unknowingly studied the same subject, and played a short game to help us remember everybody's names. The

occasion called for appropriate dress code – business attire obviously – and after having our individual and group pictures taken, we carried on with the more content-orientated part of the first official meeting, which took place in the multimedia room of the mansion.

By then, we were all a bit more relaxed and Richard took care of organizational aspects, such as presenting an overview of the program, distributing different tasks and giving us our FAUMUN binders with information on various topics relevant for Model United Nations. Before moving on to group presentations that some of us had prepared beforehand, we were also given a short briefing on business attire. Richard instructed the male delegates in the pairing of different types of ties and collars and color do's and don'ts regarding shoes and belts, while Elisa had a look at the female delegates' attire, telling us all about the appropriate amount of accessories, color and pattern

faux-pas and the adequate height for heels.

Afterwards, three groups gave presentations on a range of topics concerning the United Nations, all the way from the UN's history, structure and main organs and their challenges to a comparison with other international organizations. We received immediate feedback on content and performance by our Head Delegates as well as the Project and Content Managers (alternative: the FAUMUN team), but of course, they still had a little surprise left. After all groups had finished, Richard revealed to us that our presentations had been videotaped and we were given the footage in order to see for ourselves how we did and what could still be improved.

Although the first official meeting had then come to an end, we had just embarked on a journey that would be fun, challenging, interesting, exhausting, successful and so much more! ■



Photos: FAUMUN

Second day of presentations

by Caroline Dietrich

An introduction into the UN, Kuwait and Egypt

After having heard about the United Nations from some delegates at the first meeting, the others held presentations on one of our assigned countries for NMUN: Kuwait. We got to learn about the country's history, its international relations and the internal politics.

Some of the discussed topics were colonialism, the Persian Gulf War, oil export revenues, relations to countries in the region and the United Nations, the government and legal system, human rights as well as the role of religion concerning virtually all aspects of society, culture and politics.

The information provided was very valuable and useful for everyone as it served as a first insight into the different fields we would be working on, and helped us gain a basic understanding of crucial Kuwaiti issues regarding politics, economy, society and culture. ■



InfoBOX

Our presence on Facebook

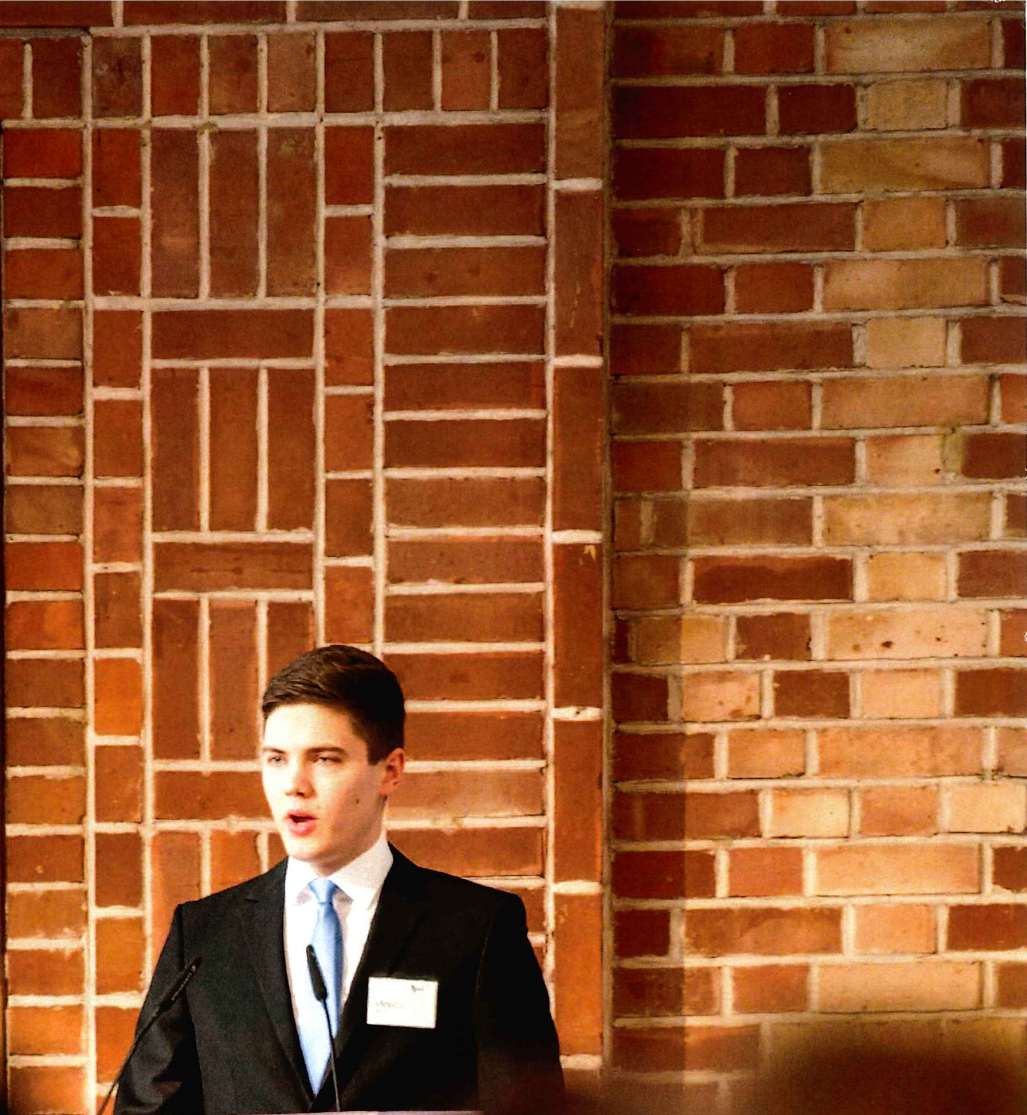
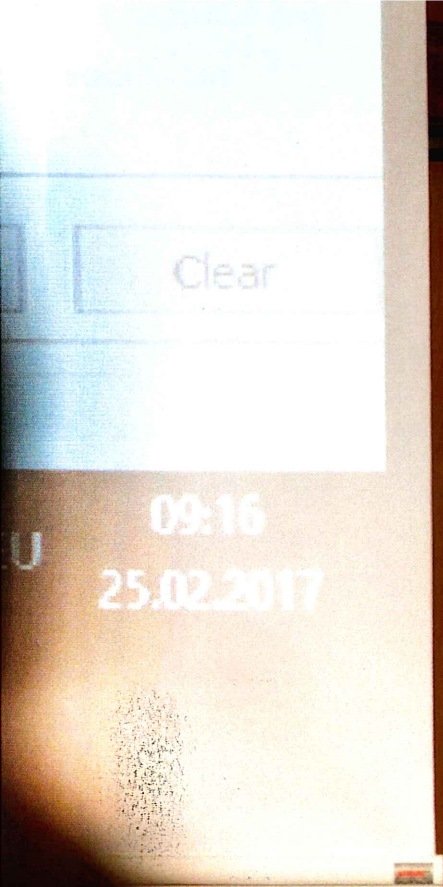
FAUMUN has its own fan page on Facebook. We share important information, current news and photos of the project so that our followers are always updated. Thanks to the editorial staff of the FAU fan page on Facebook, our posts are also shared in order for more students of our university to be informed about the current delegations' work and success. Have a look and leave a like!

www.facebook.de/faumun



BEHIND THE SCENES





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Training für öffentliches Reden

Das Projekt
Die Vorbereitung
des Seminars
Treffpunkt: 14.02.2017
Training für öffentliches Reden



Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften
Lehrstuhl für Öffentliches Reden

My expressions, my hands and my words

by Caroline Dietrich, Moritz Bergdolt and Georg Schneider

The FAUMUN speech training

At the world's biggest Model United Nations conference, it is not only challenging to hold a speech in front of hundreds of people, but also to hold the one that will be remembered. After hearing speeches all day, people lose focus, however, standing out is important in order to have an impact on the committee. When it comes to holding convincing speeches, one's voice, tone, gestures and facial expressions play a major role that can even be more crucial than the actual words one is using. Not only formal speeches but also the speech act in general was the subject for the delegation's professional training in public speaking.

The day started with various exercises, some of which seemed a bit juvenile, yet turned out to be quite effective for the understanding and rethinking of the voice we use every single day. By throwing balls (literally at first, then verbally), speaking through obstacles, drilling holes in walls with our breath, mirroring each other (more or less) perfectly, uncontrollably shaking our faces and other exercises that better remain unnamed, the lesson proved to be very educational and entertaining. Of course, there had to be a theoretical foundation on which the musician/actor/speech trainer Stefan Rieger asked and answered questions about speaking channels, body/voice tension, breathing methods and the distinct steps from thought to the spoken word.

While everybody was having quite a good time during the first half of the lesson, nervousness overshadowed the second half of the day. It was one of the first times for us to hold a speech in front of the whole group. It only had to last one to two minutes, yet anyone who ever had to do a presentation knows how long a minute can be. Knowing, and seeing that Mr. Rieger was not joking around on vocal matters, the body tension for our speeches was easily assured.

As it turned out, most of the worries were unfounded, for as much as Mr. Rieger criticized and admonished, he always encouraged, praised and heartened everyone to truly step out of their comfort zone and to try out new versions of voices to find one's "own voice". The speeches themselves, though subordinated to the speaking, were great in diversity. There were serious speeches that spread concern, funny speeches that broke the tension, and speeches that were so self-conscious that Mr Rieger used them to make a point of *not*

speaking by making pauses, an important part of a speech. All in all, this first speech training was one of the funniest and most instructive days of the seminar, with its relevance extending beyond FAUMUN. However, this was just the first of two speech training days.

The second one started rather differently, by something that comes to everybody's mind when thinking about political speechwriting. Of course, it's football. To whomever this connection isn't clear, it should be stated that it is not football in general that is interesting for our topic, it is only a tiny bit of this sport: the motivational speeches. In particular, we focused on the motivational speech given by Al-Pacino in the movie "Any Given Sunday", right before the deciding game. This was an extraordinary example for the use of emotions in a speech, which made it more than just locker room talk. By reciting this speech in small groups and recording it for instant feedback, we quickly got a first impression of what a moving speech should sound like.

In order to get closer to a more political topic, we went ahead to analyze one of Barack Obama's, also known as "the King of

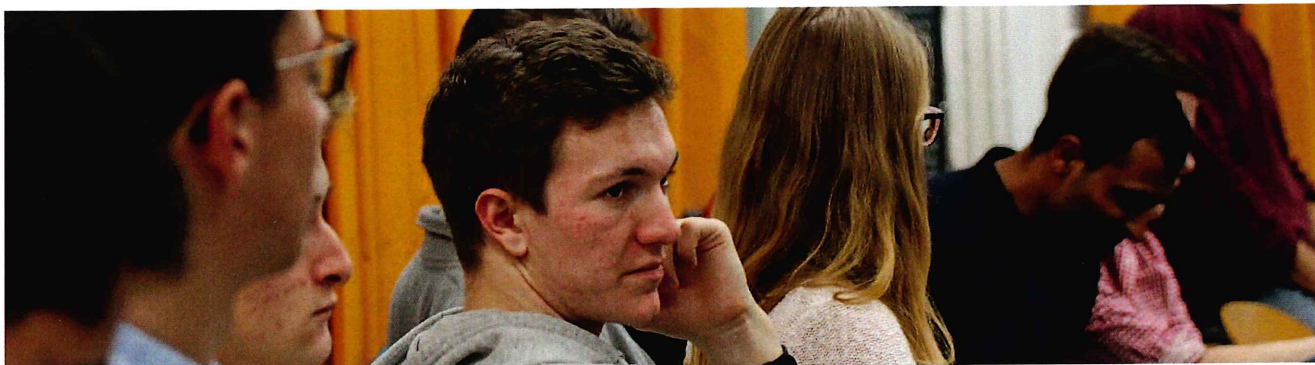
Tricolon", a name earned by the usage of his favorable stylistic device, speeches. Apart from his favorite stylistic device, we discovered and analyzed more of them and thereby obtained a much deeper understanding of how they work, when they make sense and what they induce in the audience. But it is not just about speaking, phrasing and accentuating. Silence, when used in the right way, can be as impressive as the use of the most eloquent words. This was demonstrated by Benjamin Netanyahu: during a speech in front of the General Assembly, he stood in silence for 45 seconds in order to stress the message of his words.

But that was enough of learning from others; to learn the skills ourselves we had to hold our own speeches, which were even filmed. We were able to re-watch our speeches and had the unique possibility to see ourselves speak. This way, we could improve those small nuances that make a good speech a great one. This day, we could work on our non-verbal communication, we acquired skills in speaking publicly we never even dared to dream about weeks before and, most importantly, through constructive feedback, we grew even more together as a delegation, as a group, as friends.

Negotiations at its best

by Niels van den Hoff

The FAUMUN delegation prepares with negotiation training for MUN conferences



In late November, the group had its first opportunity to expand its knowledge about negotiation tactics and ways to excel in a negotiation. The group learned a lot about the different factors that can lead to a “successful” negotiation and therefore ultimately became much more conscious of their own behavior during negotiations.

But before you jump right into it, you have to get to know the kind of person you will be talking to. How do you recognize who is a ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ negotiator? Which of the two is better, and is there a third kind of negotiator? And what are the possible outcomes when these parties clash and start to bargain? What kind of settlements (if any) would they reach? These questions were answered in the presentation by our Project Manager, sticking strictly to the teachings of the Harvard Business School and its maxim of a ‘win-win’ negotiation.

In a first roleplay, we were able to put theory into practice, acting one-on-one as two CEOs who are trying to purchase a limited amount of goods, which were needed to produce vaccines. The vast amount of information given in this complex situation was intended to confuse the participants and many lost sight of the common target. Thus, only a handful of the groups managed to achieve a win-win situation in this

exercise, proving just how difficult an effective and target-orientated negotiation can be.

To increase the difficulty, we had a three-sided negotiation in the following task. The goal here was to improve the aspect of cooperation but also to focus on the target. Accepting a small victory when in a bad position rather than breaking off negotiations completely was a difficult lesson. Furthermore, this task made it obvious that a bad position to negotiate isn’t always as bad as it seems because a skilled negotiator might be able to turn around the

situation. At the end of the eventful three hours, the delegation definitely learned how to excel in negotiations, a skill which is not only of utmost importance in MUN but throughout our lives. ■

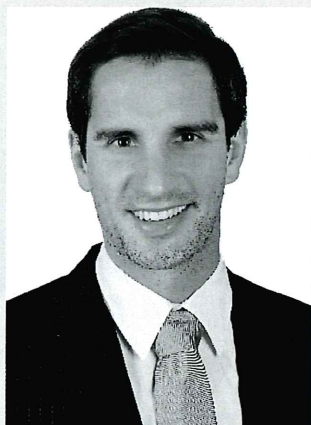


Photos: FAUMUN

Kuwait and Egypt

by Sabrina Ahmed

The delegation had the honor to welcome Tobias Zumbrägel to talk about the assigned countries



Tobias Zumbrägel, M.A.

He owns a scholarship of the ZEIT-Stiftung since September 2015 and is research assistant and PhD student at the institute for political science of the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg since March 2016.

In a comfortable atmosphere at the restaurant "La Pasión" in Erlangen, the delegation met Tobias Zumbrägel who works at the chair of "Policy and Society in the Middle East" at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität. On a break of his sabbatical term in Saudi Arabia, he gave a lecture for the FAUMUN delegates in Erlangen in December. As the countries assigned to the FAUMUN delegation 2017 were Kuwait and Egypt, the lecture was concentrated on those two countries. Mr. Zumbrägel first came into contact with Kuwait during the end of his master studies, when he started to focus on the environmental policy in the Gulf region.

He became familiar with Egypt during his community service in 2007/2008, which was followed later on by various internships and his semester at the American University in Cairo, where he witnessed the different regimes and experienced the Arabic spring at first hand.

Mr. Zumbrägel explained both countries' history, the political system, the regional



differences between both countries and which circumstances lead to the current situations there.

After his lecture, Mr. Zumbrägel answered all our questions. He also elaborated on very specific questions, for example about women's rights in Kuwait or how the countries' positions would be in the different councils and committees at the United Nations. This proved to be an excellent preparation for NMUN. ■

The UN and international law

by Julius Werner

"Is our 'Action Plan' compliant with international law?" Prof. Dr. Markus Krajewski helps answering this common question

"It's a struggle of a lifetime to understand", Professor Krajewski – holder of the Chair in Public Law and Public International Law at the FAU – introduces the topic of the evening, public international law, to the students of FAUMUN. But 90 minutes later, we gathered an overview, broad as well as deep, of this for MUN-work highly relevant issue together with many examples out of real life. Spinning the story from the sources of law and its subjects, towards its basic principles and respectively including the alignment of Kuwait, Mr. Krajewski gave an exciting lesson to students of international law as well as to non-specialist students. From a law-perspective, for example, we debated how to determine, whether the conflict in Syria is an international conflict or not. Professor Krajewski differentiates clearly: whatever the political goal is, one needs to stick to the law for a winning argumentation that will not be defeated. Covering the different aspects of former and current conflicts in the world from Kosovo and Sri Lanka to

Palestine, Sudan and Syria to more complex cases like Kurdistan, equipped us students not only with knowledge of international law but also with a deepened view into some thoughts of conflicts. During the last minutes, the questions of the students were answered and the discussion culminated in a fruitful exchange. The FAUMUN project thanks Professor Krajewski for his excellent and long-standing support. ■



Prof. Dr. Markus Krajewski

Mr. Krajewski is professor at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität and owns the Chair for Common and International Law since the winter term 2010/11. Professor Krajewski consults international organizations and NGO's when it comes to European and International Economic Law. His research focuses are International Economic Law, international protection of Human Rights Law, European External Relations Law and the European Law of public services. *

10 years of FAUMUN - 5 years of UNSN e.V.

by Caroline Dietrich

FAUMUN celebrated its 10th anniversary in Nuremberg with supporters, current participants and former delegates



On January 13th, FAUMUN delegates, alumni and United Nations Society Nuremberg (UNSN) members celebrated FAUMUN's 10-year anniversary as well as the UNSN's 5-year existence with a get-together at the WISO Nuremberg, including a lecture from the "Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge" (BAMF).

Former and current delegates as well as other guests were able to chat, and have a look at previous FAUMUN accomplishments and also snapshots of the project whilst enjoying snacks and beverages in a pleasant atmosphere.

Mena Mokammel and Richard Endörfer, chairs of UNSN's executive committee, started off the evening with welcoming words, paying special thanks to all former FAUMUN project managers and head delegates.

For the second part of the evening, Dr. Johannes Fritz and Dr. Johannes Obergfell gave an overview of the BAMF's development and fields of work as well as recent developments in the

context of refugees and asylum seeking in Germany. It was interesting to learn about issues the BAMF works on, other than asylum proceedings, which tend to be the main focus of the media. Further fields include working in integration or the promotion of voluntary return in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The planned lecture on the BAMF quickly turned into an animated discussion, since the audience had many questions concerning the BAMF's work in the context of current issues.

Some questions that were raised, touched on the difficulties of hearings and determining safe and unsafe countries or areas within them such as in Afghanistan.

One of the major topics discussed was the decision-making process around granting or denying asylum to those seeking it and sending people back to their country of origin. Do possible future perspectives in countries of origin influence the decision? Are those who

decide supervised? How are those who decide prepared and trained?

Possible future prospects in the countries play a very limited role in deciding whether or not to send someone back to their home country. High requests for asylum have led to a tripling of employees in the last few years, making supervision difficult, however, new employees work with experienced decision makers who can guide them. The decision makers are first briefed on and prepared for specific countries during a period of six to eight weeks and then start working on suitable cases, before gradually expanding their knowledge of other countries or regions. In addition, decisions are examined in order to avoid mistakes and insufficient reasons.

Many other issues such as alternative immigration opportunities were addressed, however one fact that was reiterated and is often forgotten is that although it deals with highly controversial matters, the BAMF is not, nor wishes to be a political actor itself. ■

Beyond Model United Nations – UNSN e.V.

by Richard Endörfer

A brief introduction into what Model UN teaches us and how UNSN e.V. helps deepening it



Model United Nations can go far beyond its fictitious borders. Joining a universities' MUN project can teach us political, social and cultural aspects of the represented countries. But it offers a lot more than that. The United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V. is one of the supporting organizations behind FAUMUN. Our understanding of Model UN aims to communicate a different and more extensive definition of what Model UN can teach us. Delivering speeches in front of a large audience, negotiating difficult and complex political issues and handling diplomatic behavior with different minded people strengthens the delegate's way of professional communication. This focus on soft skills will serve their delegates in the

future. The students' benefit out of Model UN is enormous. It helps to broaden their horizon and deepen their own personal skills.

At UNSN e.V., we help MUN-related projects in the region to go this path together with us. We are not only a soon-to-be official alumni organization of the university. We provide professional speech training, introductions into MUN rules of procedure, arrange contacts with professional negotiation companies, host the annual conference BayernMUN, organize an annual alumni meeting, participate actively in Nuremberg's thrilling cultural and social life, provide layout and design for every MUN-related project or conference and

maintain a network of young professionals and global citizens. Our main partners are the City of Nuremberg, with its office for Human Rights, the Diakonie Neuendettelsau and the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.

Join us and try to find your own limits at the United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V. ■

UNSN e.V.

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10 Jahre FAUMUN
5 Jahre United Nations
Society Nuremberg e.V.

"Are there any points or motions on the floor?"

by Florian Panier

When should I raise my placard? Are motions always allowed? The delegates get an introduction into NMUN Rules of Procedure

193 delegations in one assembly would most certainly end in quite a chaos without structured guidelines and rules. Therefore, a 100-page paper filled with regulations tries to keep matters in order. Standardised phrases aim to provide a fluent course of the meeting and a strict chair keeps every member in a fair discussion. It is no question that the delegation needed an extensive briefing in order to perform in the best way possible in New York.

Information about how to raise points and motions to the chair was the main focus of the Head Delegates' presentation. Points and motions of the chair are the only option to influence an ongoing discussion. However, they need to be placed thoughtfully, since they either demand a decision by the chair or even a vote by the whole committee. If used in the right way, motions can come in quite handy and actually be a great help in order to get support for your interests.



FAUMUN delegates learning Rules of Procedure at the „Kollegienhaus“

The new rule of addressing the Head Delegates with 'honourable chair' for the rest of the day resulted in laughter quite a few times. Also, everybody was excited for the announcement of the delegation teams at the end of the

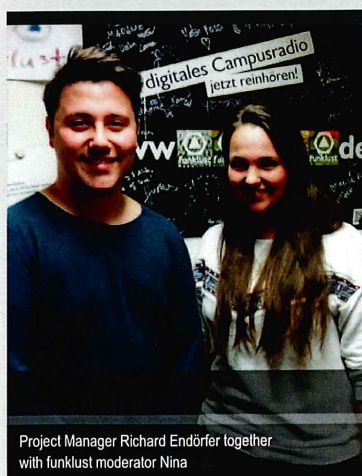
session. "Who will get the seat in the Security Council? Who is going to be my committee partner?" In the end, everybody was very happy with the Head Delegates' decisions. ■

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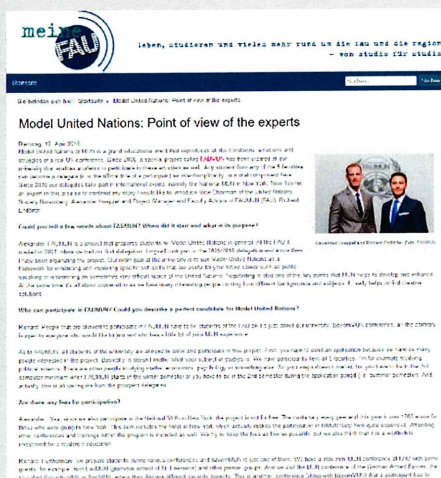
Interviews

The FAUMUN team had the honor to be invited to some interviews. Thanks to the team of funklost, the blog meineFAU and the editorial staff of the FAU website, we had the possibility to explain to the students of the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität how Model United Nations works and what they can expect out of a possible participation. Have a look at the meineFAU blog, the funklost website or our interview at the main website of the FAU!

<https://www.faumun.fau.de/mediathek-2/pressespiegel/>



Project Manager Richard Endörfer together with funklost moderator Nina



“Decorum please!”

by Franziska Döring

The FAUMUN delegation had its first simulated UN training conference at the FAU



The MiniMUN was our first simulated UN training conference and the first opportunity to practice the Rules of Procedure.

On Saturday, 12th of November, we held a one-day conference chaired by our Project Managers and Head Delegates. Every delegate had been assigned one country beforehand. The conference started with a speech of our Project Manager. He pointed out that the success of negotiation stands and falls with open ears and open hearts.

We started like any other Model United Nations conference by setting the agenda. The agenda topics were “The Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula” and “Promoting Livelihoods and Education for Refugees and Displaced Persons”. After a lot of agenda setting speeches and two informal caucuses, we chose topic 1 as the first one and topic 2 as the second topic to be discussed. As it was our first MUN, we had to learn how much 60 seconds are, when giving a speech. At first, it was difficult to maintain the speaker’s time but also to convey the content.

The chair was very strict on keeping the speaker’s time and decorum. This was an important learning experience for the following conferences to keep decorum and to always be respectful and polite to the chair and the co-delegates.

With the chairs’ “are there any points or motions on the floor?”, placards were lifted, at the beginning hesitantly. However, many of us struggled with the correct phrasing of the Rules of Procedure.

During the informal caucuses, a consensus was soon found. Through negotiations, the necessity to abolish nuclear weapons was pointed out. Also, the need for humanitarian, agricultural, medical and infrastructural assistance only for the civilians in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea was considered essential. Furthermore, attention was drawn to the importance of the Six-Party-Talks as the first step towards peace on the Korean Peninsula.



This eventually became the working paper.

After submitting the working paper to the chair and getting the paper corrected, the working paper became a draft resolution. Then, the committee moved into voting procedure. After

implementing amendments for this draft, it became our final resolution.

For our extraordinary motivation and commitment, the chair decided to assign a peer award. The peer at the Mini Model United Nations Conference 2016 elected Moritz Bergdolt, representing Qatar, as Outstanding Delegate in Committee.



At the end of the day, we were all exhausted, but we learned quite a lot. We had understood and practiced the Rules of Procedure, gained some experiences in giving speeches and negotiating and, for the first time ever, written our own resolution. ■



Research and writing

by Jonas Pollig

The position paper sessions

Position papers are one of the most important elements concerning Model United Nations conference preparation and therefore make up a large part of our grades. The main idea of a position paper is the description of your specific action plan and giving other participants a short impression of your goals and your course of action.

It can be challenging to describe a specific problem and to give constructive proposals in order to solve a problem, and even when well researched and formulated, an action plan may be too ambitious and unrealistic. Therefore, the production of a position paper does not only take a lot of time doing research on the specific topics but also requests creativity and writing skills.

To bring structure into our position papers, it should be divided into three paragraphs. The first paragraph describes the current situation within the country you represent, whereas the second paragraph lists relevant

international documents, treaties and resolutions. The third paragraph contains the action plan, formulating creative and innovative ideas in order to give approaches for a solution.

To avoid the failure of an action plan, the FAUMUN Content Manager, Elisa Brocksieper, arranged several position paper sessions. Within these sessions, each working group presented their ideas and received feedback from other delegates. Receiving feedback is not only helpful, but also essential to point out possible points of conflict and to identify problems you might not have seen yet, in most cases the limited power of UN bodies or the lack of financial resources.

Even though it can be frustrating to find a problem in your action plan, one has to keep in mind that having no action plan and not being prepared during a MUN conference is much more frustrating and in the end, hard work will result in an experience you will not forget.

All in all, position paper writing is a vital and also challenging part of the Model United Nations experience and the FAUMUN delegation was pleased to receive two position paper awards at NMUN in New York. ■



My best speech

by Fabian Lux

The delegates revealed their public speaking skills

The FAUMUN session on the 13th of February 2017 was one of the highlights of our preparation for the NMUN conference. Every delegate had to prepare a five-minute speech about a current political topic or a topic of personal interest. We were also allowed to choose one of our committee topics in order to practice for the upcoming BayernMUN.

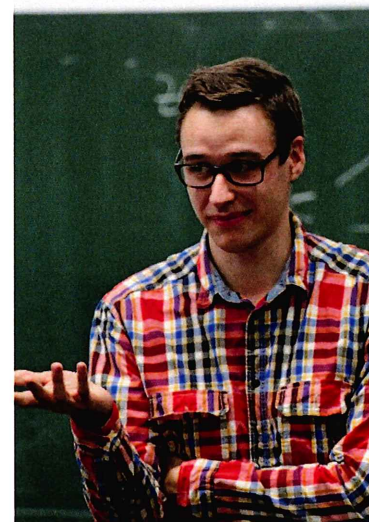
Public speaking skills are an essential part of the FAUMUN program. We had two speech training sessions at the beginning of the semester and we continued to practice our skills at the MiniMUN and SecMUN conferences. Therefore, the main criterion for the five-minute speeches was to deliver nothing less than the best and most convincing speech of the program. The five-minute speeches are not only a great opportunity to show our co-delegates what we have learned so far. They also act as an indicator for further improvements in New York.

From the very beginning of the speeches, it was obvious that everyone put great care into their work. All delegates chose interesting topics and it was a pleasure listening to the speeches. The range of topics included the universal access and right to water, environmental protection, food security and more.

After each speech, we received feedback from our co-delegates regarding the performance. Overall, the feedback was very positive and only some minor mistakes were spotted. The excellent quality of the speeches proved that every delegate definitely enhanced his or her public speaking skills throughout the seminar. However, our Head Delegates reminded us to make use of stylistic devices more often to increase the impact of our speeches.

The five-minute speeches were a great opportunity for us to further improve our rhetorical skills. After the extensive

training throughout the semester, we were looking forward to using our presentation skills at the upcoming BayernMUN and NMUN in New York. ■



Photos: FAUMUN

Building a delegation out of individuals

by Nicole Eger

Teambuilding games, riddles and lots of fun



To get to know the work of the United Nations by personal experiences and improving our English as well as our soft skills were the serious and ambitious goals of every person participating in the FAUMUN program. The students of the FAUMUN project 2016/17 already met once before the delegation day, hearing presentations and taking photos for the website in official business attire – in contrast to that, the delegation day gave us the opportunity to be acquainted with another side of the participants.

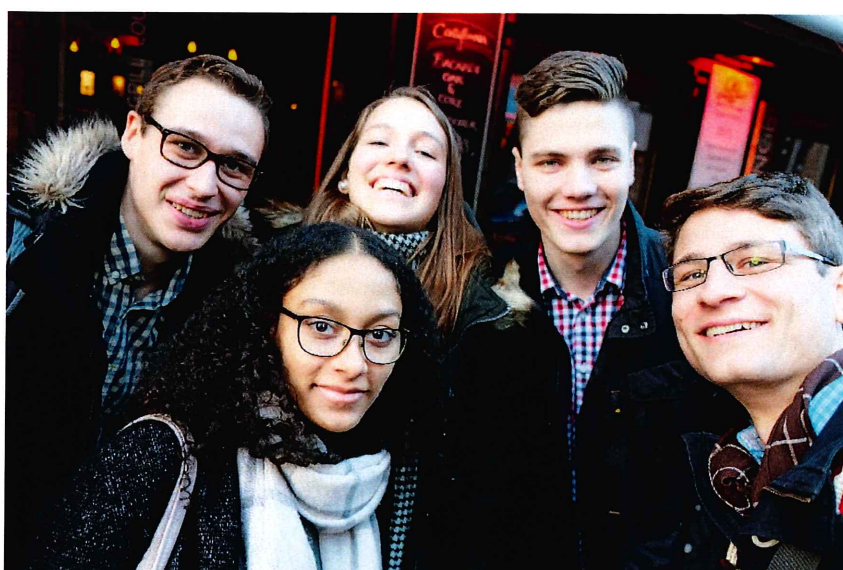
The program started with some games in order to "break the ice" – at least we didn't know each other very well before. First of all, we had to line up behind of each other in a row according to age, distance from the city of origin to Erlangen or the number of siblings. Sounds easy - but it is not if you are not allowed to speak. Some other games of

team building followed until the actual program started: A paperchase.

Four teams were built and started a competition throughout Erlangen and Nuremberg. The team to arrive first at the secret destination, solving the given tasks the best way, would win. The riddles we had to solve were questions to test the knowledge of the students like "Which is the biggest state in the US by population?" (California) as well as encoded messages or tasks like "Change an apple with a passer-by or shop owner against something more valuable" (We got a jar for jam, a fork-spoon, a bottle of beer and two little figures of famous characters).

At the end of the day, the four groups met again at the secret destination: An American restaurant (in order to prepare gastronomically for NMUN in New York)

to let the day end and exchange our experiences. Concluding to the games and scavenger hunt, we can affirm that the delegation day has helped us a lot to become friends and build a team for the following months of intensive group work. ■



Interview: Dr. Michael Jungert

by Marina Bühler and Sarah Zenk

The new ZiWiS will be replacing the former institute ZIEW

ZENTRALINSTITUT FÜR
WISSENSCHAFTSREFLEXION UND
SCHLÜSSELQUALIFIKATIONEN

ZiWiS



Dr. Michael Jungert has been a member of the university since 2015 and is director of the Center for Applied Ethics and Science Communication (ZIEW), which FAUMUN is also a part of. We talked with him about the new structure, main tasks and focus of research of the new center ZiWiS which will be replacing the ZIEW beginning April 2017.

FAUMUN: Dear Mr. Jungert, you have been a part of the university of Erlangen-Nuremberg since 2015 but you already have a long-standing connection to the region. Why is that and how did you come back?

Dr. Michael Jungert: I was born and raised in Nuremberg and studied philosophy, history, and biology in Bamberg and Erlangen. My PhD studies brought me to Tübingen and Boston. After having worked in Bonn and taught at LMU Munich, I came back to Franconia in 2015 to assume the new position as director of the ZIEW which will now be replaced by the ZiWiS.

F: What does the abbreviation ZiWiS mean and what does it stand for?

J: ZiWiS stands for "Zentralinstitut für Wissenschaftsreflexion und Schlüsselqualifikationen", in English "Center for Applied Philosophy of Science and Key Qualifications".

F: We are currently observing with great interest a slight change of FAUMUN's host institution in structure, design and focus of research. Why is it necessary to reform the old ZIEW into the new ZiWiS?

J: The new center has a strong focus on applied philosophy of science which aims at fostering the dialogue and interdisciplinary research between all departments at the FAU. In addition, it was important to include the "Schlüsselqualifikationen" (Key Qualifications) into the name of the new center as they are the most important area of teaching.



Dr. Michael Jungert

F: In which way did the organizational structure of the institute change?

J: First of all, the ZiWiS will still be a "Zentralinstitut". This means that it does not belong to one of the academic departments, but is an independent institute that offers research and teaching for all departments and is under the supervision of the University Directorate. However, the structure will change insofar as we will have five instead of three members on the Directorial Board. Furthermore, the close cooperation with the student representatives will play an important role for the new center.

F: What was the former main research area and where is this focus now?

J: The ZIEW was focused on applied ethics. ZiWiS, on the other hand, will concentrate on applied philosophy of science. This allows for a much wider range of research topics, including trust in science, interdisciplinarity, scientific methods, philosophy of psychology and neuroscience, and many more. However, ethics and especially the ethics of science are a part of applied philosophy of science and will also play a role in the new institute.

F: Apart from its research, ZiWiS provides service for FAU students. How do students benefit?

J: Students can benefit in many different ways. The team of the "Grundlagen- und Orientierungsstudium" (GOS) offers advice for first-year students and a broad range of seminars and workshops on topics like academic writing, presentation skills, and time management for students of all ages. In the area of key qualifications ("Schlüsselqualifikationen"), we offer about 40 seminars for all FAU-students each semester, reaching from science journalism and future studies to media skills and public speaking. Finally, there are special services and seminars for visually impaired and blind students.

F: How do you see the role of Model United Nations for the development of diversity, interdisciplinarity and internationality at ZiWiS?

J: FAUMUN is an important project that

enriches the ZiWiS in each of those aspects. It attracts international students from a huge number of countries, it combines perspectives from political science, psychology, law, and other disciplines and it offers a vital practical addition to the students' respective field of studies.

F: In a business world where soft skills become more and more important, how can the university and the center further strengthen practical skills in often too theoretical studies, in order to be better prepared for professional life?

J: If you look at the aforementioned range of key qualification seminars that the ZiWiS offers and the many soft skill programs at department level, I think FAU is on a very good way to combine cutting edge research and teaching with profound practical skills. ■



Berlin preparation days

by Katharina Rößler and Christiane Kraus

The FAUMUN delegation 2017 prepared for NMUN with expert lectures in the German capital Berlin



Early on Wednesday morning, the 8th of March, we, the delegation of FAUMUN 2017, woke up to go to our capital, Berlin. We met there at 12 pm at our Hostel, the Bax Pax Hostel Berlin Downtown. The hostel was perfect as it was in the center of Berlin, we could reach almost everything we needed by foot and it offered a nice breakfast buffet. Three days of seminars, discussions and presentations laid ahead of us and therefore, all delegates were excited. Thus, we headed out to the "Humboldt Universität zu Berlin", where we had a seminar room, and received a little introduction from our Project Managers. Afterwards, the first presentation from Benedikt van den Woldenberg, a former FAU student and today working for the German Orient Institute, took place. The delegates were very impressed by his vast knowledge about the revolutions in the Middle East and the Arab spring. The next lecture was held by Dina Wahba, an Egyptian academic and women's rights activist. We had a very interactive conversation with her since she answered our questions very honestly and we got an impression of the real

lifestyle and attitude especially in Egypt and the Middle East. We debated economic issues, sovereignty, gender roles, religion, regional politics, human rights, climate change and the Arab spring. This really helped the delegates to develop an understanding of the Arab culture. In the evening, we had a dinner together with our Head Delegates as well as our Project Managers and reflected the opinions presented to us that day. Thursday started with a lecture delivered by Sylvia Groneick, who is from the Foreign Office and the department United Nations. She introduced the Foreign Office with an image film to us and continued with some general information about the United Nations and especially the Security Council. Sylvia Groneick ended her lecture with remarks on the German candidature for a non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council. At 11 am, we were cordially welcomed at the Federal Defence Ministry by Major Scharnhorst. He reviewed current military conflicts, some operations of the German Army as well as budget and armament issues. Further, he emphasized that conflicts

can never only be solved by military actions. After our lunch break, Sandrina Köbinger from the Foreign Office, specialized on Kuwait, visited us. She answered our specific committee-related questions concerning Kuwait, even with the background of Kuwait's history. She was followed by Oberstleutnant i.G. Lammert from the Federal Defence Ministry. Since he took part in the White Paper 2016 process of German Security Policy, he is an expert in this field. He enlightened us on goals of security policy, challenges and prevention of crises. In the opinion of the federal government, crises can only be prevented if they are recognized as early as possible. Moreover, he answered several questions inter alia about the cooperation between police and military as well as the Brexit. In the evening, we met Dr. Adolf Ritter von Wagner in the RAMADA-Hotel for a fireside chat. He is a former ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany and was leader of the German delegation of the disarmament conference in Geneva. Dr. Ritter von Wagner narrated key moments of his life as an ambassador



and delegate, but also of his private life as well as strategies in negotiations. Furthermore, he gave us hints on how to convince interlocutors. The atmosphere in the chimney room was very pleasant and we enjoyed the delicious food, which was presented to us as a buffet. After the lively lectures and discussions on the first two days, on Friday morning we attended a workshop about rhetoric and competences in discussion strategies. Mr. Jens-Uwe Röke gave a very instructive and informative workshop. He is a professional rhetoric trainer and certified journalist. We developed structures of argumentation and enjoyed his helpful practice tasks. For lunch break, some of the delegates appreciated a typical Berlin Currywurst with fries in a snack stand. In closing of our intensive seminar days, our Project Manager recapitulated BayernMUN with us, spread some information about UNSN e.V. and gave some last remarks for NMUN. In this vein, we gave each other feedback about the development in the last semester and some tips for the upcoming simulated conference in New York City. Subsequent to that, we had a seminar evaluation. Finally, we went to the Brandenburger Tor and took a group picture in front of it. After these educational days, that surpassed our expectations, we feel absolutely prepared for and are really looking forward to the NMUN at New York City. We thank the UNSN e.V. for making these seminar days financially possible and valued the excellent organization by Elisa Brocksieper. ■





BAYERN
MUN



Photo: United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V.

The

Conferences

The FAUMUN delegation attends three conferences in its complete semester of preparation: The MiniMUN in Erlangen, the SecurityMUN in Munich and the BayernMUN in Nuremberg. Our delegates attend these conferences in order to be perfectly prepared when it comes to the United Nations simulation in New York City, called 'NMUN'. Have a look at the next few pages and get an impression of how MUN works and looks like . . .

Security Model United Nations in Munich

by Marina Bühler and Sarah Zenk

The FAUMUN delegation at the University of the German Bundeswehr



Friday, December 2nd

On our way to the conference, we finished our speeches, discussed our strategies and anticipated the upcoming weekend. We arrived just in time for the opening ceremony at the Bundeswehr University for the Security Model United Nations. The Bundeswehr staff welcomed us with warm words at the opening ceremony. After that, we were sent to our respective committee rooms, one each for the Security Council, the Peacebuilding Commission, and the Human Rights Council. The delegations from both universities immediately became acquainted with each other, even though names were soon forgotten and replaced by the name of the delegate's country, such as „South Africa“, „Belgium“ or „Qatar“.

The official sessions started off with the agenda setting speeches which were used to convince other delegates of setting the agenda in a certain order as there were two topics to choose from in each committee. Owing to the small size of our committees (compared to BayernMUN and NMUN), this procedure did not take long and we soon moved on to discussing the first topic of the now set agenda. The delegates quickly identified with the position and interests of their respective countries. During the informal caucuses, positions were explained and soon, the first coalitions were built and oppositions arose.

After the suspension of the meeting until 9:30 am, we all went to the Bundeswehr Uni Bar together to wrap up the day with a drink and further exchanges between the delegations.

Saturday, December 3rd

On the second day, the coalitions immediately focused on writing the working papers. Adding to the already existing coalitions, new allies arose and tried to win other delegates over. This was also reflected in the given speeches which became feistier and more challenging as the formal sessions continued.

The committees developed different strategies to successfully deal with occurring conflicts and contrasting opinions. The Security Council tried to solve the disagreement between the USA, Russia and the Ukraine by bringing them together in a friendly debate. The Peacebuilding Commission reduced the speaker's time to 20 seconds in order to enforce informal caucuses more frequently. In contrast to that, the Human Rights Council increased the speaker's time to 90 seconds to give all delegates the chance to make their questions and doubts clear as misunderstandings had occurred.

After suspending the meeting until the next morning, we had a feedback session with our Head Delegates and the entire FAUMUN delegation to discuss our impressions of the day. We then went back to our hostel in Munich, changed our clothes and met the Bundeswehr students for dinner at Hans im Glück at 9 pm in the city center of Munich. We continued our debates, but also finally got to know each other on a more personal level.

Sunday, December 4th

In the morning, our working papers were finally accepted as draft resolutions by the chairs. Before starting the actual voting procedure, there were amendments and divisions of the question to be decided on by the delegates. After that, each delegation in the three committees had to decide whether to vote in favor, against or to abstain.

It turned out that the hard work on Friday and Saturday had paid off: all of our draft resolutions passed so that every committee adopted at least two resolutions.

Following the adjournment of the meeting was the closing ceremony, where the delegates had the opportunity to win two kinds of awards. Firstly, the Outstanding Position Paper Award for convincing the chair of profound research skills, of a well thought through action plan and for meeting the linguistic requirements. Secondly, the Outstanding Delegate Award for convincing our co-delegates of our negotiation and communication skills and of our leadership qualities. There were three awards of both categories possible in each of the three committees and the FAUMUN delegation won 11 out of 18 awards.

The SecMUN conference was both exhausting and challenging, yet an inspiring experience for all of us. We were sad to leave, but were already looking forward to the next conference in February (BayernMUN) where we would also meet the Bundeswehr delegation again. ■



InfoBOX

behind the scenes

Cooperation

Since 2014, the University of the German Bundeswehr and FAUMUN are cooperating by attending each other's conferences. This means that the FAUMUN delegation attends the annual SecMUN conference in December in Munich and the Bundeswehr University attends the BayernMUN in February, shortly before NMUN begins. In New York, students of both universities represent their countries in the same committees at NMUN. We are proud to have such a strong MUN partner and hope that the cooperation will continue to thrive!

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Every year, shortly before NMUN in New York City begins, the non-profit organization *United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V.* hosts the BayernMUN conference in the city center of Nuremberg in cooperation with the city, the Diakonie Neuendettelsau and the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität. Over 130 participants from 22 different nations, including the University of the German Bundeswehr, LauMUN, FAUMUN, the FAU and other university students, come together to discuss topics related to international security, worldwide development and human rights. If you want to participate or if you want to know more, visit the website of the conference at www.bayernmun.org.



Photo: United Nations Society Nuremberg e.V.

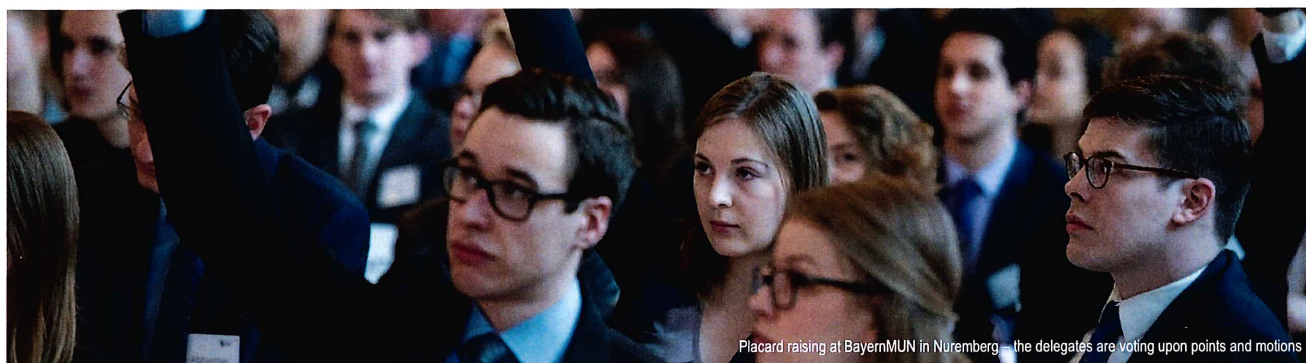


BAYERN
MUN

Bayern Model United Nations in Nuremberg

by Rayan Böhm and Valentin Held

Negotiations and celebrations in the city of human rights



Placard raising at BayernMUN in Nuremberg – the delegates are voting upon points and motions

For years, Bayern Model United Nations (BayernMUN) took place in Neuendettelsau. This year, however, many things were different. The conference took place in Nuremberg. After the check-in at the Caritas-Pirckheimer-Haus for all those interested, the program began with a guided tour through the medieval city centre of Nuremberg, the city of human rights. The journey through the past led to the monumental pillars of the "Street of Human Rights". In the meantime, a brief introductory seminar into the Rules of Procedure of MUN conferences was offered for those willing to deepen their knowledge. These rules are the basic tools for all delegates to shape the conference and its proceedings.

Before the solemn opening ceremony, there was a short break which the delegates could use to further get to know each other and have some lunch. After the break, all delegates moved to the conference hall at Heilig-Geist-Saal, an impressive conference hall. In this atmosphere, the staff invited the delegates to have some champagne. Afterwards, the highly motivated delegates entered the assembly hall, eager to get a front row seat. Filled with tension, the representatives waited for the opening ceremony to start. The delegates enjoyed speeches by Dr. Harald Kindermann, Secretary General of the German Society for Foreign Policy, Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Heiner Bielefeldt, former United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Gabriela Heinrich, member of German Bundestag, Dr. Mathias Hartmann, Chief executive of Diakonie Neuendettelsau and sponsor of BayernMUN, Professor Dr. Rainer Trinczek, Dean of the Faculty of

Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology and Nasser Ahmed, official representative of the city of Nuremberg and of the mayor, Dr. Ulrich Maly. After these intriguing, motivating and distinct speeches, the BayernMUN 2017 conference was declared for open.

The central task of the first committee session was to set the agenda. By voting, the delegates could choose between three interesting topics: Threats to International Peace and Security caused by Terrorist Acts; Expanding Access to Justice; and Eliminating Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, Related Intolerances and Strengthening the Freedom of Religion. Chair, participants and guests enjoyed the first delightful speeches, which allowed the delegates to point out their preferred order of agenda. For many of the young ambitious delegates, it was the very first time they had the opportunity to prove their rhetoric skills in front of such a big committee of about 130 people. The speeches were diverse: From emotional to rational, from academic to practical. After first discussions during a short informal caucus, the agenda was set and the issue of terrorism was chosen to be discussed first. Before having dinner at the hotel, several speeches on the topic were held.

In the morning, the delegates gathered at the Heilig-Geist-Saal to start the second day. Twenty minutes before the doors to the hall were opened, almost all delegates stood in line to obtain the best seats. In the morning during informal caucus, action plans were debated and coalitions were made. During lunchbreak, the participants started writing on their working papers. In the

afternoon, the speeches became more concrete, work was intensified and first drafts were handed in at the chair. However, the highlight of the day was still to come. It was delegates' night. An exquisite lounge at one of Europe's biggest Multiplex Cinemas was reserved for BayernMUN. The decoration impressively showed with how much passion for details the conference had been planned. Dressed like diplomats in business attire, the crowd drank, laughed and talked. The encounter provided the opportunity to get in touch with inspiring people of very distinct origins. Young women and men from more than 25 different nations enjoyed the venue. For instance, a delegation from the German school of Sofia, Bulgaria, and a group from the ENKA Technical School in Turkey. Some enjoyed the possibilities of Nuremberg's nightlife in order to further celebrate socializing. Therefore, the night was rather short for some delegates, but despite all ambitions of the delegations, fun and making friends is a crucial part of any MUN experience.

The next day started with the same procedure as every day at a MUN; with a roll call vote. The delegates were as motivated as the day before, but certainly a bit more tired. The first corrections of drafts were implemented and after a few more hours, the first three working papers were accepted as draft resolutions. After one and a half days of tough negotiations, this was a special moment which filled the delegates with joy and pride. Eventually, the last stage of the MUN conference was reached: voting procedure. Obviously, all delegates hoped for their draft resolutions to be adopted as official resolution of the General Assembly. Last

THE CONFERENCES

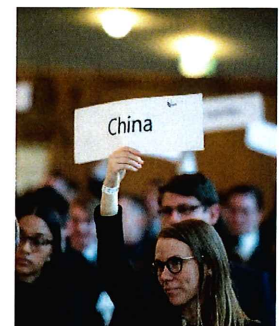
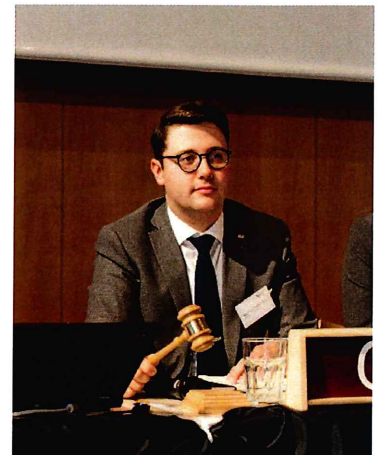
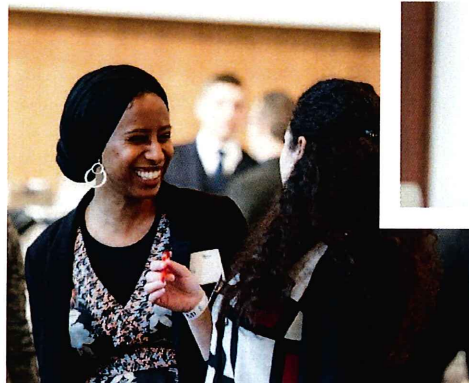
but not least, the most outstanding delegates in terms of preparation and in terms of performance during the conference were rewarded. At the very end, the committee adjourned the meeting until 2018 and Richard Endörfer, Director-General of BayernMUN 2017, closed the conference.

Who made this exceptional experience for so many participants possible? First, BayernMUN has quite a number of supporters: Diakonie Neuendettelsau, the Human Rights Office of the city of

Nuremberg, the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität and the Central Institute for Ethics and Applied Science Communication. In cooperation with these organizations and institutions, the United Nations Society Nuremberg did not spare any efforts to realize their vision of a high quality MUN conference in the heart of Nuremberg. Particularly, the Diakonie Neuendettelsau provided substantial funding and continued their support after BayernMUN moved to Nuremberg. Furthermore, they have paved the road for the extraordinary

scholarship for four people.

So what is the future of BayernMUN going to look like? Certainly, it will continue to attract an increasing number of young and eager students from all around the world. Also, there is no doubt that the team behind the scenes is going to keep on striving for perfection and excellence for future conferences. ■



Photos: UNSN e.V.

The FAU in New York City



Photo: FAUMON

National Model United Nations in New York City

by Max Heubeck and Katheesan Lingewaran

The FAUMUN delegation in the Big Apple



Months of preparation, different simulations and position paper writing were leading up to the final conference in New York. Looking forward to five days of intensive work and negotiations with a variety of different delegations and finally seeing one of the biggest cities in the world, the National Model United Nations conference would be the milestone which would show how effective the last months of training had been. With packed bags and several position papers from other participants, the trip to New York started. Greeting us with snow and temperatures under zero degrees, the city itself was overwhelming. Skyscrapers, bustling streets, shiny advertisements everywhere and of course, the United Nations Headquarters were the perfect scenery for the upcoming conference. The opening ceremony, which took place on Sunday, was a warm welcome, on the one hand from the director of NMUN who personally addressed the committee, and on the other hand by António Guterres via video message, in which he encouraged all delegates to share the spirit of the United Nations and stressed the importance of the UN in resolving imminent threats to the international community. Even during the opening ceremony, the work of the different committees began. First connections to other delegates were made and business cards were handed out. The work started even before the official opening. Declaring the committees of 2017 in session, the real sessions begun. From smaller councils like the Security Council, encompassing up to 30 delegates, up to almost 400 delegates, represented in the committees of the General Assembly, the delegation representing Kuwait and

Egypt split up to start their work. After the roll call, the first task was to set the agenda in a preferred order, which required debate about the significance of the topics at hand. The first day of NMUN ended, with a set agenda list and a first impression of the other attending delegations. The debriefing scheduled at the end of every day gave all members of FAUMUN the chance to express and share experiences. From excited reports about productive committee work and friendly co-delegates to critical voices, the variety of impressions was immense. The second day started with our visit at the Permanent Mission of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations, welcoming the FAUMUN delegation with opened arms. The representative of the Permanent Mission, the honorable Mrs. Farah Toufic Al-Gharabally, was open to all questions, answered patiently, in sufficient detail and allowed the delegates to understand and fulfill the role of a Kuwaiti diplomat even better. After returning to the committee halls, the first long sessions enabled all committees to engage in negotiations and form working groups. After those were found, the chair informed all committees that the first working papers would be accepted, and in all committees, first drafts were formulated. The writing process turned out to be one of the most exhausting parts of the work in informal sessions. Even like-minded countries and delegates were discussing the wording and stressing of certain clauses, and the whole day was spent trying to create convincing working papers. The following day, unofficially called "Meltdown Tuesday", was all about perfecting the working papers corrected by the dais and merging draft

resolutions that shared a common approach to tackle the problem on the agenda. This phase entailed intensive negotiations and ongoing corrections to ensure the best possible draft resolutions. At the end of this day, several draft resolutions were on the floor in every committee and the most stressful day was completed. Wednesday was wholly dedicated to the voting procedure and the amendment process, which gave every delegate the chance to make last corrections or implement and stress certain aspects within draft resolutions. After the adjournment of the meeting, the FAUMUN delegation met Mr. Andreas Glossner at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. Giving us a glimpse into his work, Mr. Glossner was also eager to answer the specific questions of the FAU students. During the debriefing of the last committee sessions at the end of the day, it became clear that most draft resolutions had passed and most of them with a great majority, which reflected the spirit and work of the United Nations to find solutions and compromises. The last day of NMUN was also one of the most impressive ones. The bigger committees were given the chance to vote on their resolutions once again in the General Assembly Hall. Later in the day, this hall became the perfect backdrop for the closing ceremony of NMUN 2017. After several keynote speeches, the awards for recognizable delegations were handed out and the FAUMUN delegation representing Kuwait won the Outstanding Delegation Award, which is a reward and proof of the good preparation and work of all members of the FAUMUN project. Being one of the top 5% of the delegations represented at the conference, all members were more than happy that their efforts were recognized and rewarded. This positive outcome made everybody more than proud to have contributed to the team's success and the end of the FAUMUN project, which traditionally is the walk over the Brooklyn Bridge, left everybody with mixed feelings. On the one hand, being proud to be part of the success, on the other, being sad that the project had come to an end. Even if the future paths of every delegate will lead in different directions, the impressions and lessons learned during this whole project will accompany every participant of FAUMUN, wherever he or she will be. ■



InfoBOX

Did you know?

Since 2007, the FAUMUN project of the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität has always won the first or the second place of the conference – so the FAU has always been among the best five or ten percent of all participating universities at NMUN worldwide! All FAU delegations together have won over 40 awards in the past ten years at the New York City conference:

- 10 Delegation awards
- 19 Position Paper Awards
- 11 Outstanding Delegate in Committee Awards
- 1 Video Award

BEHIND THE SCENES





The

Delegation

All Delegate Photos: FAUMUN

Priya George



HEAD DELEGATE



FAUMUN sensitizes students to global issues like international peace and security or human rights. It helps to make young people think about what should be improved in our world. They hopefully start talking about certain issues and some might as well spring into action."

Thomas Hohnholz



HEAD DELEGATE



FAUMUN can be seen as a great chance to work on personal skills such as self-presentation, rhetoric or teamwork. These qualities are useful in any later profession! It is also a great chance to understand the workings of diplomacy and how agreements are negotiated and agreed on."

Sabrina Ahmed

28.02.1996



Political Science, Orientalism

Committee: **Security Council (Egypt)**

Committee Partner: **Moritz Bergdolt**

I applied because FAUMUN is a great chance to look behind the scenes of the diplomatic work and I am very interested in international politics. It is a possibility to learn how to write and give speeches, how to present an opinion and how to convince others. I hope to improve my soft skills and to learn how to cooperate in a diplomatic way. Furthermore, I expect to meet many people with interesting thoughts so I can also develop new perspectives.

Axel Aigner

02.10.1993



Law

Committee: **Commission for Social Development**

Committee Partner: **Katharina Rößler**

Awards:



The UN is the most powerful guarantor for the peaceful cohabitation and the further cooperation of the world's nations and ethnicities. In my opinion, the philosophy of uniting the nations, the willingness to help each other and the effort for peacekeeping across the globe is the main social advance of our century. Peace is a fundamental factor for the progress and development of humankind. For me, the UN is the most capable organization to keep the peace in which my generation grew up and is used to live. She provides the most advanced solutions to the problems and tasks of the world community by using the pooled potential of the world's nations.

Moritz Bergdolt

07.07.1997



Human Geography

Committee: **Security Council (Egypt)**

Committee Partner: **Sabrina Ahmed**

The reasons for my participation lead directly to what the project could be for me. The project could be a groundbreaker on my way to the diplomatic service and a first step into the diplomatic world. As well, it offers me the possibility to grow, rhetorically, in terms of debating and of course in my language skills. It is a unique possibility to meet and connect with people who share the same or a different mindset on global problems. This will be an extraordinary opportunity to discuss and evaluate what drives my generation and to create a better understanding of each other. Apart from all the positive aspects, I will personally benefit, the better understanding of different mindsets and the different approach to global problems will help to create an understanding of, metaphorically spoken, how the world works and why the world works how it works. This part of the project combined with the interpersonal connection which will be made during the preparation and the negotiation are for me the main reason for participating and why the project is such a unique experience.

Rayan Böhm

27.06.1996



Political Science, Economics

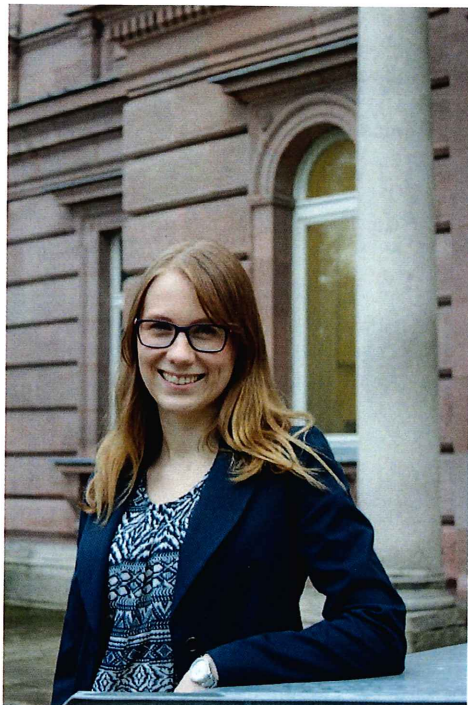
Committee: **General Assembly First Committee**

Committee Partner: **Max Heubeck**

I applied to FAUMUN especially because of the soft skills and to finally deploy the learned theory in "real-life politics". I am highly interested in meeting new people, making new friends and working as a strong unit at the conferences. Another aspect is earning more self-confidence by delivering speeches in front of huge assemblies and by learning negotiation skills for the future. I expect to have an intensive next semester with, on the one hand, a lot of fun with the other delegates and of course, on the other hand, the necessary professionalism to become (one of) the best delegations at the NMUN.

Marina Bühler

04.04.1994



Management

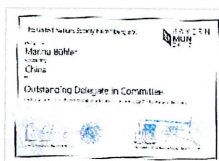
Committee:

Commission on the Status of Women

Committee Partner:

Georg Schneider

Awards:



The UN is one of the most important institutions we have in order to handle global conflicts. The work of the UN is highly complex and faces immense challenges such as various cultures, languages, and political systems of the member states. Yet, it is essential in order to make world peace possible, to give countries the opportunity to have their agendas represented in finding solutions for global issues. In my opinion, it is indispensable to further improve the system and structure of the UN to guarantee effective operation. The work of the UN encompasses multiple entities. To me, UN Women, the Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, is particularly close to my heart. This is why it is my goal to work as a consultant for UN Women one day.

Caroline Dietrich

11.11.1997



Political Science, American Studies

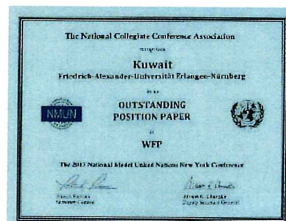
Committee:

World Food Programme

Committee Partner:

Julius Werner

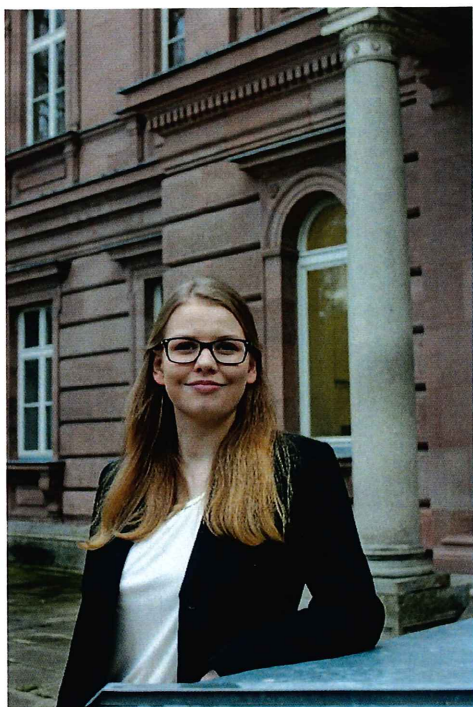
Awards:



One of the reasons I applied is that I wanted to challenge myself to try something new and learn more about international relations. FAUMUN enables its participants to develop and discuss possible solutions for international issues and experience the unique United Nations setting first-hand, which is a great opportunity. I think the project will help me grow personally, by equipping me with useful skills and improving my self-awareness while still being fun. I am also looking forward to meeting and working with other students, who will probably make me aware of certain connections I did not see before.

Franziska Döring

13.08.1996



Political Science, Economics

Committee: **International Atomic Energy Agency**

Committee Partner: **Niels van den Hoff**

Awards:



The UN is an organization that takes care of others. In times of globalization, it is essential that someone cares about global peace and tries to prevent wars in order to protect the people. Beside of prevention, intermediation is an important assignment of the United Nations. Related to civil wars, the UN is advocating for peace talks and wants to protect the basic human rights. In addition, the promotion of international collaboration is fundamental to advance prosperity for all peoples. For me, the most significant remit is to shelter people from any violence and to bring them peace.

Nicole Eger

11.11.1994



Human Geography

Committee: **United Nations Environmental Assembly**

Committee Partner: **Katheesan Lingeswaran**

Awards:



As a geographer, I have a special interest in international affairs and world politics. About my course of studies, I especially like the fact that we permanently deal with current developments all over the world in order to understand them better. A huge variety of disciplines are combined. From human-environmental-conflicts over the effects of development aid to political happenings and their consequences, different processes are investigated and linked. Since this is all really complex and you never stop learning, FAUMUN is a brilliant opportunity for me in order to broaden my horizon. I also really appreciate the opportunity of dealing thus intensive with topics such as free speaking in front of many people, improve my negotiation strategies and time management. When else do you get the opportunity to improve your key qualifications thus intensive under professional guidance? I am sure that the project will help both my academic and personal education. From my participation, I expect that I will get to know interesting people and new points of views, improve my soft skills and understand politics a little bit better.

Valentin Held

14.06.1995



Economic Science

Committee: **General Assembly Second Committee**

Committee Partner: **Christiane Kraus**

Awards:



The motto of FAUMUN is "leader of tomorrow". Strong personalities, which are willing to take responsibility, and which are internationally orientated are a crucial asset for any university. The FAUMUN delegation will be the representatives of FAU. By performing excellently at the MUN conferences, the project can have a positive impact on our university's image. Thus, FAUMUN can be great advertisement for the university, and make Erlangen-Nuremberg interesting for high potential school, bachelor or maybe even master graduates. Furthermore, the delegation's members will learn a lot by participating in the project. By sharing these experiences and skills, fellow students who did not participate, have the chance to benefit from FAUMUN as well.

Max Heubeck

30.11.1993



Political Science, History

Committee: **General Assembly First Committee**

Committee Partner: **Rayan Böhm**

Nowadays, all nations are facing challenges such as climate change or the current refugee crisis, which cannot be solved unilaterally. Even if the UN is not a supranational institution that possesses the capabilities to solve these problems until now, it represents a reasonable alternative to unilateralism. Successes like the mitigation of the Berlin or Cuba crisis could be the first in a long list to follow. So, for me, the United Nations represents a chance to unite the efforts of humanity, to eradicate famine, extreme poverty or war from the planet. Maybe someday the UN can be the organization that will lead the way to a better future.

Christiane Kraus

20.12.1993



Economic Science

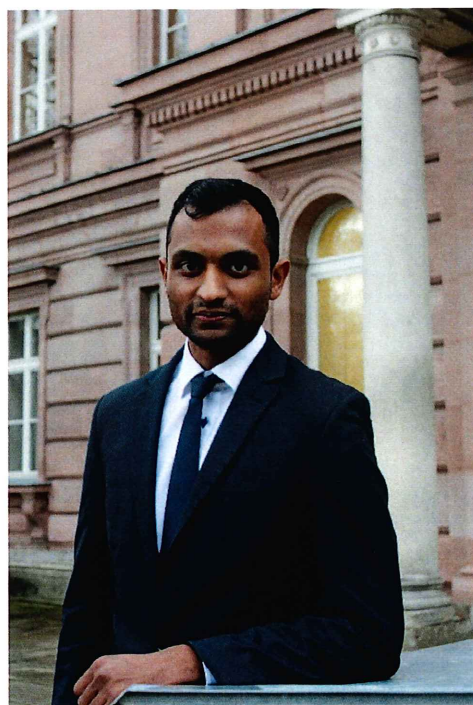
Committee: **General Assembly Second Committee**

Committee Partner: **Valentin Held**

I applied, because I expect an interesting and outstanding semester. Because of my interest in the work of the United Nations I want a deeper insight and also anticipate improving my practical, research, speaking and diplomatic skills, social and intercultural competences, negotiation skills and the way I present myself. I await a team which is growing together during the semester and gain experiences. Furthermore, I believe I will develop myself further and rise beyond myself while constantly improving my performance.

Katheesan Lingeswaran

16.10.1988

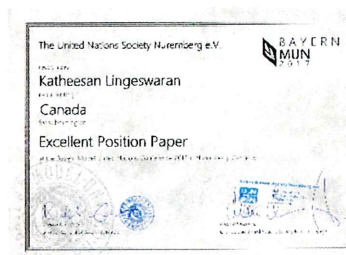


Chemical and Biological Engineering

Committee: **United Nations Environmental Assembly**

Committee Partner: **Nicole Eger**

Awards:



I want to explore the world between international politics and technology. If our environment shall be transformed towards a greener one, technological innovations would not solely be sufficient. Societies should also form and raise their environmental consciousness to enable the introduction of new technologies. Therefore, political actions are needed, especially if the industry has to be "updated".

Fabian Lux

21.05.1995



International Business Studies

Committee: **World Health Organization**

Committee Partner: **Jonas Pollig**

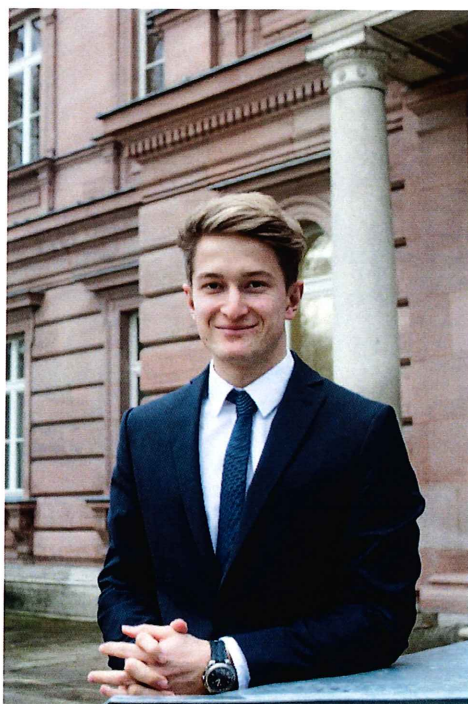
Awards:



The FAUMUN project provides a great opportunity for an exchange of ideas among FAU students regardless of their courses of study. The interdisciplinary approach of this project could serve as an example of faculty-spanning teamwork at the university and I would like to see more collaboration at this level in the future.

Florian Panier

13.01.1997



Business Studies

Committee: **General Assembly Third Committee**

Committee Partner: **Sarah Zenk**

For me personally the UN do not only stand for the world's most important intergovernmental organization. Its six principal organs serve the international community to an incredible degree, in concerns of our worlds' safety but also by encouraging dialogue between countries. I believe the UN stands for a chance of contributing to a future of peace and international friendship.



Jonas Pollig

10.06.1993



Political Science, Economics

Committee: **World Health Organization**

Committee Partner: **Fabian Lux**

Awards:



Since I see myself in the future working in an international organization, FAUMUN is not only helpful for my curriculum vitae, but also for the soft skills that are needed to work in such an organization. I was always interested in politics, especially in international politics. I wanted to experience how politics negotiate with each other and how and why contracts between states are signed. FAUMUN is the perfect chance for me to experience international negotiations based on national interests in a serious simulation. FAUMUN will enlarge my soft skills, such as the expertise to speak in front of a huge crowd in another language than German, and the chance to improve my negotiating skills. I expect a serious simulation in one of the greatest cities with many motivated people from all over the world and I am looking forward to showing my skills and theoretical knowledge in FAUMUN.



Katharina Rößler

04.12.1995



Law

Committee: **Commission for Social Development**

Committee Partner: **Axel Aigner**

Awards:



The project is a once-in-a-lifetime-chance that includes a package of knowledge that is outstanding. Beginning with information about UN's work and their Rules of Procedure, going on to experience in foreign policy and ending up in trainings on communication and presentation techniques, FAUMUN gives students a world of opportunity that goes much further than one mere subject at university. The most relevant topics can only be found by putting oneself in the country's place. Being part of the FAUMUN delegation means the possibility to reinforce social preconditions. In these days, soft skills are more important than ever. This is why I am keen to broaden my knowledge in the field of the third column: learning diplomatic skills, learning how to negotiate and how to convince other people. Furthermore, FAUMUN offers the chance to receive different views on problems and solutions – as a future jurist, this flexibility and creativity is absolutely important.

Georg Schneider

14.04.1996



Political Science, Economics

Committee: **Commission on the Status of Women**

Committee Partner: **Marina Bühler**

Awards:



A successful representation at the MUN in New York is prestigious not only for the participants themselves, but also for the university that helped them prepare for the task. The university also has the chance to present their most promising students, which they have chosen, to present their high standards of education and dedication. As has happened before, cooperation between universities is made possible, encouraged and most certainly a promising prospect. This allows the university to try different approaches, compare the results, and adjust their programs accordingly. Lastly, the FAUMUN project grants access and connections to national as well as international politicians, which can be a powerful tool in improving the universities standing.

Niels van den Hoff

10.07.1992



Medical Process Management

Committee: **International Atomic Energy Agency**

Committee Partner: **Franziska Döring**

Awards:



I value the humanitarian idea behind this project and the work of the UN very highly. By participating in this project, I hope to gain insight into the inner workings of the UN and the strategies and mechanism it utilizes to address the issues at hand. By participating in this project I hope to not only improve my negotiation and (English) public speaking skills but also to lay the foundation for a career in a field which aims at the benefit of mankind.

Julius Werner

04.03.1990

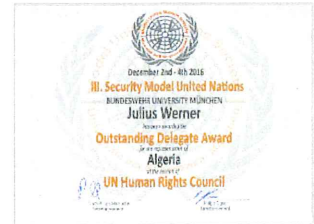
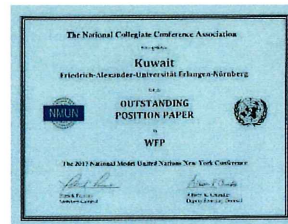


Industrial Engineering

Committee: **World Food Programme**

Committee Partner: **Caroline Dietrich**

Awards:



As interdisciplinary program, FAUMUN pairs students from different faculties and backgrounds. The together obtained knowledge will flow back into academia. University teaching and research will be enriched through the experience made by the participants. The practice in the field of international issues will allow to raise the right questions and to attach importance on their challenges. And last but not least the participants represent at any time the FAU and so their achievements will represent the FAU as well.

Sarah Zenk

30.09.1995



International Business Studies

Committee: **General Assembly Third Committee**

Committee Partner: **Florian Panier**

Being a member of the delegation is a chance of a lifetime and a great alternation to the everyday life of university. One has the opportunity to use the theoretically learned issues and methods and get some practical experience. Furthermore, it is a life changing experience because of the exceptional way of being able to prepare and give speeches within a few minutes and meeting students from all over the world. My expectations for this project are to improve my soft skills like rhetorical and negotiation skills, how to solve problems efficiently and getting more confident in giving speeches. I believe that with the help of my team members my expectations are going to be met.

Fireside chat

by Axel Aigner

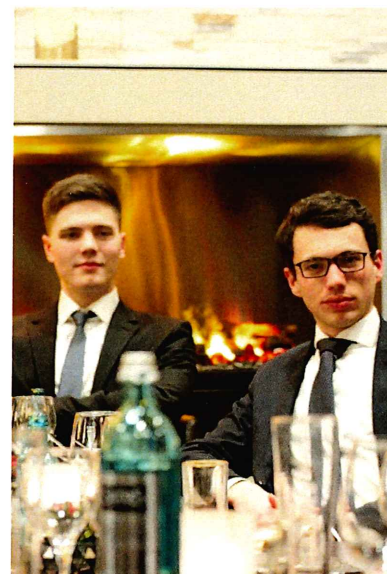
Former German diplomat Dr. Adolf Ritter von Wagner met the delegation



On the second evening of the intensive preparation days in Berlin, prior to the NMUN conference, we had a very special guest to talk to and to get an inside view on the work of a diplomat. In the chimney room of the Ramada hotel, we met Mr. Adolf Ritter von Wagner, among other positions the chief negotiator of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in 1992 and former German ambassador in Argentina until 2000. Despite his outstanding diplomatic career, Mr. von Wagner is a supporter of FAUMUN since many years. Although we had a highly decorated diplomat in front of us, with his friendly manner and a good amount of humour, Mr. von Wagner really cared for a relaxed atmosphere. He answered all of our questions about the procedure, requirements and characteristics of the international diplomacy and the work as a diplomat as well as shared anecdotes and personal experiences from his career with us. With his precise and humorous descriptions of unexpected turns in negotiations (e.g. global players get tangled in their own negotiation claims) or about the unofficial, personal relations between countries' delegates, (he is still friend with members of the Eastern German delegation) and various other inside views on the top-level diplomacy, Mr. von Wagner showed us a perspective on these topics not many other people are capable to do. I am sure he aroused and encouraged the interest of many of us in

the higher level of diplomacy. Especially when talking about his own, unexpected path to political studies and the Federal Foreign Office. He originally studied law, switched to political science and after reading a newspaper advertisement, decided to apply for a career as a diplomat. Mr. von Wagner encouraged us to not deter from applying, even if we are doubtful to meet the requirements. Furthermore, through many examples he showed us the importance

of negotiation as well as social skills, structured working and profound preparation, which should become very useful in various situations at NMUN. The fireside chat with Mr. von Wagner was a great experience, as it was the first time we met a diplomat with such an amount of experience and we could get information and useful advice concerning NMUN, a possible career as diplomats and his personal assessment on current political topics. ■



Photos: FAUMUN



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