

The Opening Ceremony

In the Opening Ceremony of this year's ACGMUN, we were happy to enjoy a variety of speeches and songs as well as a short play. Firstly, Lefteris Staikos, Secretary General, introduced this year's theme, which is "Digital Citizenship" and reminded the participants that in the 3rd ACGMUN we are going green, and highlighted the importance of everybody's contribution.

The principal of our school, Mr. Eric Trujillo, after thanking the people involved with the organization of this conference, talked about the significance of digital citizenship, issues of privacy and cryptocurrency.

The next speaker, Kostas Loukas, the General Manager of Public Sector at Microsoft Central and Eastern Europe, made clear that the world is constantly changing. He invited everyone to consider the ideas presented and further urged delegates to pose questions. He referred to a quote by Albert Einstein; "The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't anything about it" and encouraged the young people of today to make the right ethical decisions.

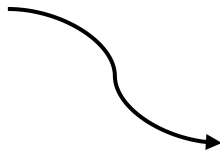
Shortly after Mr. Loukas, Myladie Stoumbou, Regional Director, Commercial Partner Strategy and Programs for CEE Multi-country Region working for Microsoft, supported the same notion that the world is changing and is proceeding more rapidly than society. She mainly focused on the role of Artificial Intelligence and the impact it has on our everyday lives. Among others AI helps establish transparency, as well as accountability and responsibility. However, she pointed out that we are currently making baby-steps towards this goal.



The opening ceremony concluded with an artistic segment. Pierce students performed an interpretive play and a six member school band sang two emotion-evoking songs bringing the ceremony to a pleasant close.

-Penelopi Kolydas

Delegates in the Pierce Theatre



Our Secretariat

GET TO KNOW OUR CHAIRS



Marevi Kanellopoulou, Co-chair of the Disarmament and International Security Committee.

1) How many times have you attended an MUN conference and what drew you to it?

This is my 10th conference and I have to say that I have gained many unforgettable experiences in the last 2 years. What encouraged me to join the MUN club of my school, was my passion for debate and public

speaking. I love debating and I thought MUN would be a nice opportunity for me to debate in a more formal way and form constructive solutions and arguments.

2) What is your spirit animal and why?

I could say that my spirit animal is a panda. Pandas are gentle, but also have hidden strength which does not stand out because of their peaceful presence. Also they symbolize positive thoughts, something that defines my attitude towards life.

3) What are some tips you would give to someone attending MUN for the first time?

Dear newcomers,

1. It's your first conference, nobody is expecting much from you. Just try to relax and enjoy your first MUN experience.

2. Don't get stressed with preparing resolutions and speeches. Research your policy and familiarize yourselves with your delegation stance. In that way you will be able to engage in the debate, after observing others.

3. Speak, speak, speak! You will regret not standing up and taking the floor, after understanding how simple it is. If you enjoy it and participate you will take what the conference has to give you and be willing to participate more.

Dimitra Meri, Chair of the Disarmament and International Security Committee.

- 1) How many times have you attended an MUN conference and what drew you to it?

I have attended 13 MUN conferences so far. The reason why I began attending MUN conferences in the first place was my interest in world affairs. But then I realized that what is going on in the world would be a very small part of the knowledge I would gain from MUN. When it comes to the benefits of being part of the MUN, I would say without hesitation that they are countless.



- 2) What are some tips you would give to someone attending MUN for the first time?

1. *Believe in yourself. If you don't believe in your skills then nobody will. In MUN self-confidence is the most important thing.*
2. *Never give up! It may seem difficult at first but giving up isn't the solution. Try hard and you will be rewarded.*
3. *Have fun!*

- 3) What is one of your most embarrassing MUN moments?

It was my first MUN Conference and as you imagine I was super anxious. The last day of the Conference I decided to take the floor. I started reading the speech I had prepared. When I finished my speech everyone was staring at me. It was then that I realized I read the wrong speech about a different topic. I was so nervous that I had not realized it until that moment. It was really embarrassing.

Emmeleia Kokolaki, Deputy President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

- 1) How many times have you attended an MUN conference and what drew you to it?

The 3rd annual session of the ACGMUN will be my 7th conference. What drew me to attend my first MUN conference was my extreme love for debate, politics, leadership and international relations.



- 2) What has been your most memorable MUN experience?

All the MUN conferences I have attended have filled me with unforgettable experiences, but if I were to name one of them, I would undoubtedly choose the moment I successfully delivered my first speech in the World Forum Theater in The Hague International Model United Nations.

- 3) What are some tips you would give to someone attending MUN for the first time?

Attending an MUN conference for the first time is not an easy job. If I was to give a newcomer three tips, they would be the following;

- 1. Always feel confident to express your ideas.*
- 2. Do not hesitate to ask multiple questions until you are quite familiar with the rules of procedure.*
- 3. While debating/lobbying, always keep in mind that the people you are addressing have been in the same place in which you are now, so there is no need to worry about being embarrassed.*

- 4) What is one of your most embarrassing MUN moments?

The one I can vividly recall was the moment, when I delivered a speech contrary to the policy of the country I was representing, because I thought that in MUN we are expected to express our own opinion, but this is not the case.

Nikos Artinos, Chair of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee

- 1) How many times have you attended an MUN conference and what drew you to it?

This year's ACG MUN will be my 14th conference overall. I originally did not like MUN at all, until I was forced to attend a conference by a friend called Alex Thomaz. He has been the one who has inspired me and has helped me throughout my MUN journey the most. Now, I cannot imagine my life without MUN, as I have gotten the chance to meet so many talented individuals who have all played a big role in my life.



- 2) What has been your most memorable MUN experience?

My most memorable MUN experience would be when I first started chairing. I was very surprised and excited when I learnt that I would be chairing in my favourite committee (Special Political and Decolonization Committee). Now for my 6th time chairing, I am glad that I am able to serve as the main chair of my favourite committee once again.

- 3) Describe Yourself in 5 Words:

- Organized
- Patient
- Optimistic
- Dedicated
- Reliable

1st Day Recap

As the first day of ACGMUN comes to a close, we have to say that there is a sense of productivity in the air. All the delegates are hard at work in their committees discussing topics, forming alliances and drafting resolutions.

Following a busy registration, delegates and chairs alike split into their respective committee rooms for a fun half-hour session of introductions and ice-breakers. Soon after, everyone was asked to enter the theatre so as to commence the Opening Ceremony which comprised of speakers and artistic entertainment alike. The ceremony concluded and each committee resumed work until the lunch break and afterward.

We await the fresh ideas that will be discussed at this conference, the resolutions that will be created and the amazing teamwork from all the chairs and delegates.

-Christianna Bounti

Editor in chief

Christianna Bounti

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