



ACADEMY MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2010
BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES

PRESS CORPS

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Hello delegates!

Welcome to Press Corps of this year's AMUN. We the chairs, Sarah Myoung and Stephanie Cervino, will be serving this committee in order to investigate the issues and topics that are being discussed by delegates in respective committees during the 2010 AMUN session. For those of you who are not familiar with Model UN, the members of Press Corps will have the opportunity to write articles, to speak to different delegates from all committees, and to explore different facets of each committee and function. If you have any questions or concerns about the committee, you may e-mail us at sarmyo@bergen.org and stecer@bergen.org.

Sincerely,

Sarah Myoung
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Stephanie Cervino
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The attached paper is meant to be an instructional guide that provides background information on Press Corps, explains the committee's role in AMUN, and the responsibilities of all of the Press Corps staff and members.



Introduction

Press Corps is a committee that serves as an information bridge between the various AMUN committees involved in debates and discussions. The members of Press Corps act as professional reporters and journalists from the international print media. Press Corps is very different from the other committees of Academy Model United Nations. Therefore, members do not debate with other delegates, but, rather, investigate the topics being discussed by these other delegates in their respective committees. Press Corps members also do a substantial amount of writing and often interact with delegates from other committees.



Worldwide press corps at the New York Philharmonic Dec. 11 press conference

http://images.huffingtonpost.com/2008-01-06-IMG_8675.jpg

Who makes up Press Corps?

Press Corps is a multifarious committee. It is composed of two chairs, a layout editor, staff, and members. The responsibilities of these individuals are discussed in the next section.

Responsibilities

The members of Press Corps have opportunities to explore the activities of the various other committees by observing the debates and speaking directly to the delegates. This experience allows individual Press Corps members, and therefore the Press Corps committee, to receive primary information about the delegates' nations' stances, as well as what is going on during debate. The information garnered from members' observations and the interviews

conducted is then spread to the other committees via newsletters.

Each individual in Press Corps has a specific responsibility. The members (equivalent to delegates) are the reporters of the group. In Press Corps, unlike in other committees, countries are not assigned. The members get to choose which committee's debate they want to observe, and are then responsible for writing an article about what they have witnessed.

Before the debate begins, members will have time to get settled, and ask the committee chairs any questions they may have.

Members are supplied with a writing pad and pen so that they may

take notes and write down specific quotes during their

observation. These notes and quotes are then integrated into the articles. After, and perhaps during, the debate (depending on whether the committee pauses for recess), the members will have the opportunity to ask the delegates additional questions.

Articles

Once members have collected all the necessary information, they will type an article, which can include, but is not limited to, information on the problem the committee faces, the nations' position on the issue, the possible solutions brought before the committee, and the overall result of the debate.

Articles vary from member to member as each committee will have debates that differ in length, topic, and intensity. Each member is required to write one essay for every day

of the conference, however, members can write more than one article if they have the time. The articles, like the debates, will vary in length. There is no maximum, but it is suggested that articles be a little under 1-2 pages, single spaced.

To be submitted, the articles must have the author's name and the title of the article at the top of the document. There is no specific formatting because the articles will later be edited and arranged to fit in the newsletter layout. The members will then email the articles to an account that will be announced on the first day of the conference and posted in the Press Corps committee room. Press Corps members writing articles are not responsible for taking the picture(s) accompanying their own articles. If they wish to include an image, they can tell the Press Corps photographer what room the debate is being held in, and the photographer will take the picture(s) for them.

On a final note...

A statement from a former editor of Press Corps:

“I remember running around with a pad and a pen, going through all the committees, interviewing those who were involved in discussion. I felt like a reporter on an issue that was important for society. I remember hearing of a crisis and running to the room where the crisis was, writing uncontrollably on my pad all the possible details so that I would not miss anything while writing the article. After an interview I would sit on a computer and start typing frenziedly thinking of a creative title that would fit best for the article and trying to incorporate as much detail as possible. Although it was very tiring, in the end, everything was worth it. Looking through the pages of the completed AMUN newsletter with the articles I wrote, reminiscing the times when

I ran around getting interviews and typing up articles, smiling, is probably what truly motivates one to look forward to the next AMUN conference.”

- Mina Pi
Bergen County Academies