



Thirty-second Annual
**Southwest Florida
Model United Nations Conference**

March 3-4, 2025

In partnership with
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Boulevard South
Fort Myers, FL 33965

Sponsored and coordinated by the
Naples Council on World Affairs

in partnership with

The Political Science Department
College of Arts and Sciences

Florida Gulf Coast University

Dr. Richard Coughlin, Associate Professor
Political Science Department, College of Arts and Sciences

and in cooperation with

**The Florida public school systems,
and charter and private schools,
of Charlotte, Collier, and Lee counties**

**Naples Council on World Affairs
2024/2025 Officers**

Mark Schwab, President
Mimi Gregory, Vice President of Programs
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**The Thirty-second Annual
Southwest Florida Model United Nations
has been made possible in part by the following
organizations and individuals donating \$500 or more:**

Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation

The Smith Foundation (*George Gotschall award*)

Gary and Karen Biernesser

Richard and Judith Clemens

Howard and Nancy Cohen

Rollie Crawford

Herbert and Jeanette Evert

Gulati Family Foundation

Marianne Gymer

Howard and Roanna Handy

Edith Hunt

Jinny and John Johnson

Michael and Jan Johnson

Iqbal and Shelby Mamdani

Janet Markel

Patrick Mattingly and Jill Force

Noreen Murray

Dick Norwood

Maureen O’Gorman

Judi Palay

Bob and Erna Place

Robert and Joelle Roussel

Richard and Kay Ryder

Alan and Julie Van Egmond

Lillian Veri and Fred Klinkhammer

Mickey and Mo Winograd

Southwest Florida Model United Nations

COMMITTEES and AGENDA

Current Crisis

Collapse of Coalition Government in Haiti in the Midst of a Natural Disaster

Chair, front room: Jordan Spelman AB9
Vice Chair, front room: Chein Su Room 214
Co-Chair, back room: Bella Commorato
Co-Chair, back room: Anna Reid

UN Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC)

Building Infrastructure for Climate Change

Chair: Chandler Zuck AB9
Vice Chair: TBA Room 113

UNHCR / IOM / UNHRC

Citizenship for Stateless People

Co-Chair: Sarah Mill AB9
Co-Chair: Danielle Witte Room 106

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Saving the Amazon Basin from Ecological Disaster

Co-Chair: Mariah Coughlin AB9
Co-Chair: Arielle Watts Room 111

Commission on Certain Conventional Weapons (DISEC)

Developing an International Convention on the Use of Drones

Chair: Vihan Yalamanchi AB9
Vice Chair: Mia Odum Room 112

AB9 = Academic Building 9 (Water School)

OPEC

Impacts of Energy Transitions on OPEC

Co-Chair: Noelle Morey

AB9

Co-Chair: Tessa Jones

Room 220-B

UNESCO

Corporatization of Music

Chair: Amy Enberg-Aravena

AB9

Vice Chair: Julianna Perez

Room 220-A

UN Development Programme (UNDP)

Economic Development of Indigenous Communities: Reversing Urbanization

Chair: Malani Plancher

AB9

Vice Chair: Mia Shaffery

Room 207

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

Protecting International Sports and Athletes from Substance Abuse and Unfair Doping Practices

Chair: Michaela Fischer

AB9

Vice Chair: Mia Martinez

Room 209

Historical Crisis

The Bosnian War/Genocide (1992-95)

Chair, front room: Max Selzer

AB9

Co-Chair, back room: Liam Casco

Room 211

Co-Chair, back room: Nico Menendez



Conference Schedule

Monday, March 3

8:00 **Einstein's Bagels - Cohen Student Union**

- 3:00 *Note: no cash accepted*

8:00 **Registration opens**

Judges, Chairs – AB9, Room 222 (The UnMod Lounge)

All others – Cohen Student Union, 2nd floor, Room 247

8:15 **Judges & Chairs Breakfast**

The UnMod Lounge (AB9, Room 222)

9:00 **Opening Session**

- 9:30 *Judges, Chairs: AB9, Room 106*

All others: Cohen Student Union Ballroom (2nd floor)

Welcome

Alan Van Egmond, *Program Chair*

Southwest Florida Model United Nations

Mark Schwab, *President*

Naples Council on World Affairs

Dr. Aysegul Timur, *President*

Florida Gulf Coast University

Recognition of Schools and Coaches

Alan Van Egmond

Call to Order

Dr. Richard Coughlin, *Assoc. Professor, Political Science*

Florida Gulf Coast University

9:30 **Committee Meetings**

- 12:00

9:30 **Coaches/Advisors Breakfast**

The UnMod Lounge (AB9, Room 222)

12:00 **Lunch**

- 1:00 *Judges, Chairs, Coaches, Guests – The UnMod Lounge
(AB9, Room 222)*

Delegates - AB9, Room 138 (and elsewhere around campus)

1:00 **Committee Meetings**

- 4:00

4:00 **Adjournment for the Day**

Tuesday, March 4

8:00 **Einstein's Bagels - Cohen Student Union**

- 3:00 *Note: no cash accepted*

8:30 **Judges, Chairs, Coaches, Staff - Breakfast available**

- 10:00 *The UnMod Lounge (AB9, Room 222)*

9:00 **Committee Meetings**

- 12:00

12:00 **Lunch**

- 1:00 *Judges, Chairs, Coaches, Guests – The UnMod Lounge
(AB9 Room 222)*

Delegates - AB9, Room 138 (and elsewhere around campus)

1:00 **Committee Meetings** (Final Resolutions)

- 2:30 *(Coaches may not be present in committee rooms)*

1:30 **Coaches' Meeting with Alan Van Egmond**

- 2:30 *The UnMod Lounge (AB9, Room 222)*

2:30 **Debriefing** (Delegates and Judges)

- 3:20 *Chairs will moderate an open discussion*

3:30 **Closing Ceremonies**

Cohen Student Union Ballroom (2nd floor)

Alan Van Egmond, Program Chair

Keynote Speaker

Syed Adnan

Recognition of Those Who Made It Happen

Special Competition Winners Announced

Howard Cohen

Presentation of Awards

Please refer to the information elsewhere in this program for additional details on the awards.

5:00 **Conference Adjournment**

Dr. Richard Coughlin

**Delegate dining seating is available
in AB9 - Room 138**

More seating (no tables) is available
in the Ballroom and the gallery area
outside the Ballroom, as well as a variety
of locations around campus.





KEYNOTE SPEAKER **Syed Adnan**

Syed Adnan serves as Director of Organizing and Political Outreach for The American Federation of Teachers - Pennsylvania (AFTPA.) AFT Pennsylvania is the state affiliate of AFT National, a labor union that represents the interests of 1.8 million union members primarily in the education, healthcare, and public services sectors in all 50 states and Overseas Territories of the United States. Syed is a first-generation immigrant and grew up in Southwest Florida. He is an alumnus of Cape Coral High School and Florida

International University in Miami. As a student he served as president of both the CCHS and FIU Model United Nations Programs, leading both programs to national rankings, including leading the FIU program to its number 1 ranking in 2019.

Syed is a fourth-generation union and political organizer and activist and has fought for labor and democratic rights throughout North America. He has the privilege of working in multiple organizing roles in Florida, Georgia, both the Texan and Mexican sides of the Rio Grande Valley, and throughout Pennsylvania. As Director of AFT Pennsylvania, Syed has worked to represent the interests of education, healthcare, and public services employees throughout the United States. Syed began his labor organizing career formally in Atlanta with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 77, where he served to direct labor organizing campaigns to protect workers facing exploitative business practices in the construction industry and among immigrant communities throughout the Southeast. Syed has helped workers to organize in The United States, Mexico, and Canada in the English, Spanish, French, and Bengali languages.

His commitment to the Labor Rights and Democracy and to his craft is deeply personal and is rooted in the experiences of his own family members. Syed's grandfather was a trade unionist in the Former East Pakistan/ modern day Bangladesh, the country where his family traces their roots. In his grandfather's role as a trade unionist, the Bengali Labor Movement organized protests and strikes which played a critical role in the collapse of the Ayub Khan military dictatorship in 1968 in Pakistan and the eventual liberation and establishment of the independent nation today known as Bangladesh in 1971. Syed's mother, known to many in our community as Ms. Irene, has served as a teacher, paraeducator, and cafeteria worker in the Lee County School District for almost 25 years. Ms. Irene has spent the majority of her career at Cape Elementary School and still teaches today at Patriot Elementary in Cape Coral. Syed is proud to follow in his mother's footsteps as staff for the exact same labor union that she has been a member of for most of his life. Syed's brother is a university professional and doctor in the Jefferson Health System in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania fighting for patient-first policies in his profession. Witnessing his family's storied passion for democratic rights, education, activism, inspired him to join the fight as well.

2025 SWFL Model UN Awards

SPECIAL COMPETITION AWARDS – Given to the three Model UN clubs that present the best proposals for this year’s topic, Curbing the Rise of Land-Based Plastics in SW Florida.

- 1st place - \$1,000 - Howard and Nancy Cohen Award
- 2nd place - \$750 - Patrick Mattingly and Jill Force Award
- 3rd place - \$500 - Rollie Crawford Award
- 4th place - \$350 - Mickey and Mo Winograd Award
- 5th place - \$250 - Julie and Alan Van Egmond Award

LYNN KNOX SWFLMUN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

– Given to the Faculty Coach who best exemplifies the highest standards of excellence and empowerment in supporting their Model UN Team \$750 (*Bob and Erna Place \$500, Patrick Mattingly and Jill Force \$250*)

POSITION PAPER AWARDS – Presented to the authors of the best position papers. All participants are eligible.

- Barbara Markel Memorial Award (1st place) - \$2,500
- Ron Gymer Memorial Award (2nd place) - \$2,000
- 3rd place - \$1,500 (*Mark and Cathy Walchak*)
- 4th place - \$1000 (*Janet Markel*)
- 5th place - \$800 (*Judi Palay*)
- 6th place - \$700 (*Lillian Veri and Fred Klinkhammer*)
- 7th place - \$500 (*Jan and Mike Johnson*)
- 8th place - \$400 (*Mickey and Mo Winograd*)
- 9th place - \$300 (*Marvin and Helaine Lender*)
- 10th place - \$250 (*Mark Schwab*)

BEST IN COMMITTEE – The “gavel award” is given to the delegate with the highest total score from this year’s competition in each committee. (*Position paper required.*) - engraved gavel

BEST SINGLE YEAR PERFORMANCE – Awarded to the delegate who garners the most points this year. *(Position paper required.)* - \$2,000 *(Howard and Nancy Cohen)*

BEST SINGLE YEAR PERFORMANCE BY A JUNIOR – Awarded to the junior who garners the most points this year. *(Position paper required.)* - \$1,500 *(Janet Markel)*

BEST SINGLE YEAR PERFORMANCE BY A SOPHOMORE – Awarded to the sophomore who garners the most points this year. *(Position paper required.)*
- \$1,000 *(Gulati Family Foundation)*

BEST SINGLE YEAR PERFORMANCE BY A FRESHMAN – Awarded to the freshman who garners the most points this year. *(Position paper required.)*
- \$ 500 *(Rollie Crawford)*

THE MO WINOGRAD OUTSTANDING DELEGATE AWARD Awarded to the delegate with the best single-year performance who did not win a Multiyear Performance Award and is not a student at one of the “top schools.” This delegate need not be a senior but must have submitted a position paper.
- \$1,500 *(Robert and Joelle Roussel)*

STUDENT DELEGATE CAUCUS AWARDS – Awarded by the judges to the delegates whose special leadership and team building skills “behind the scenes” were especially noteworthy to help forge agreement across divides and resolve divergent positions within committees. - \$1,000 to be apportioned among awardees *(Richard and Kay Ryder)*

QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
FEEDBACK?



You may remain anonymous.

MULTIYEAR PERFORMANCE AWARDS – Awarded to seniors based on cumulative points earned by the recipients through all years of participation in SWFLMUN. A position paper and a minimum of two years of participation are mandatory.

Ralph J. Bunche Award: \$5,500

Amb. Gregor Zore Memorial Award: \$2,500 *(Edith Hunt)*

Ron Gymer Memorial Award: \$2,500 *(Marianne Gymer)*

Thomas J O’Gorman Memorial Award: \$2,500

(Maureen O’Gorman)

Jinny and John Johnson Award: \$2,500

George Gotschall Memorial Award: \$1,500

Iqbal and Shelby Mamdani Award: \$1,500

TOP SCHOOLS – Awarded to the schools with the highest average delegate scores in this year’s competition

1st place - \$1,000 *(Edith Hunt)*

2nd place - \$700 *(Edith Hunt)*

3rd place - \$300 *(Edith Hunt)*

DIANA MCGOWEN MOST IMPROVED SCHOOL

AWARD – Awarded to the school with the greatest year-over-year increase in average delegate score - \$500 *(Edith Hunt)*



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Help us grow our online presence! #SWFLMUN



The SWFLMUN conference office is located in **Cohen Student Union, Room 246.**

The office is open
Monday 9:00 - 4:00
Tuesday 8:30 - noon

The RALPH BUNCHE Award



Dr. Ralph Johnson Bunche

b. 7 Aug 1904 (Detroit, MI)

d. 9 Dec 1971 (New York, NY)

Ralph Bunche was largely raised by his grandmother, who moved the family to Los Angeles in 1918. Ralph was an excellent student and became valedictorian of his high school, then graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from UCLA in 1927. He attended graduate school at Harvard where he earned both a master's degree and a doctorate in political science.

While still in grad school, Ralph began teaching at Howard University in Washington D.C. where he was professor and founding head of the Political Science Department. He then began working for the Office of Strategic Services (a predecessor to the CIA) and in 1943 was transferred to the U. S. State Department. In 1945 he played an integral role in the drafting of the charter for the newly formed United Nations organization.

Dr. Bunche went on to become chief mediator between the Israelis and Palestinians and for this work was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950, making him the first African American to be so honored. In 1963, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President John F. Kennedy. He was appointed Under-Secretary-General of the UN in 1968.

The Ralph Bunche Award was originally established in 2018 by Richard Clemens with a \$2,000 donation to which a few others added to bring it to \$2,750. In 2020 it increased to \$5,500 and became our top award. This year, at \$5,500, it remains our top award.

2025 Contributors to the Ralph Bunche Award

Dick & Judith Clemens	\$ 2000	Jim Schmotter	\$ 250
Herbert & Jeanette Evert	\$ 500	Linda & Thomas Topping	\$ 250
Marianne Gymer	\$ 500	J. Timothy &	
Gary & Karen Biernesser	\$ 500	Colette Diegel	\$ 250
Dick Norwood	\$ 500	Dragan Stojanovic	\$ 250
Michael Saadeh	\$ 300	James & Joanne Huskey	\$ 200

Didn't win an award? IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!

Seniors who have **been accepted to FGCU** and **submitted a position paper** may apply for one of three

Prof. Richard W. Coughlin MUN Scholarships

Florida Gulf Coast University has graciously extended to our participants up to three \$2,500 scholarships and Naples Council on World Affairs will add \$500 for books and other educational expenses!

The awards will be paid in two \$1,250 installments toward the Fall and Spring semesters of the freshman year, with an additional \$500 check paid directly to each winner.

To be considered, students must apply for admission to FGCU and submit their name and FGCU student UIN (assigned at the time of FGCU application) to

Dr. Coughlin (rcoughli@FGCU.edu)

no later than March 17, 2025.

The Naples Council on World Affairs wishes to acknowledge the dedication and generous donation of time and expertise by numerous individuals...

Model UN Leadership

Alan Van Egmond	Chair
Mo Winograd	Vice Chair
Dennis Parass	Vice Chair/Judges
Robert Roussel	Treasurer
Beth Foss	Administrator
Lillian Veri	Position Papers
Rick Coughlin	Academic Advisor
Chris Korkoian	Registration Chair
Martha Williams	Public Outreach
Rollie Crawford	Resolutions Review and Strategic Planning
Edie Hunt	
Michael Smith	
Noreen Murray	

Committee Judges

Richie Badolato	John Johnson	John Psaras
Judy Baker	Craig Korkoian	Robert Roussel
Ron Baldwin	Jeff Margolis	Richard Ryder
Libbie Bramson	Bob McGavin	Jim Schmotter
Josef Brown	Kevin McTaggart	Lori Siegal
Howard Cohen	Frank Mitchell	Chuck Siegel
Rollie Crawford	Roy Moses	Michael Smith
Adam Crescenzi	Noreen Murray	Georgina Steinsky
Gary Eidson	Maureen O'Gorman	Dragan Stojanovic
Stephen Feldhaus	Judi Palay	Mary Udell
Jill Force	Bob Place	Lillian Veri
Jack Gulati	Bobbie Polachek	Mark Walchak
Edie Hunt	Anita Poss	Martha Williams
Pat Jackson	Bob Poss	Casey Wolff

Chair: Dennis Parass

Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs

Amy Enberg- Aravena	Nico Menendez Sarah Mill	Mia Shaffery Jordan Spelman
Liam Casco	Noelle Morey	Chein Su
Bella Commorato	Mia Odum	Arlene Watts
Mariah Coughlin	Julianna Perez	Danielle Witte
Michaela Fischer	Malani Plancher	Vihan Yalamanchi
Tessa Jones	Anna Reid	Chandler Zuck
Mia Martinez	Max Selzer	

Committee Chair Captain: Surya Dodia

School Mentor Program

Lynn Knox	Michael Smith	Mark Walchak
Robert Roussel	Alan Van Egmond	Mo Winograd

School Liaison: Malani Plancher

A position made possible by Iqbal and Shelby Mamdani

Position Paper Judges

Libbie Bramson	Paula Himowitz*	Robert Roussel
Josef Brown	Edie Hunt	Rhona Saunders
Rollie Crawford	Jan Johnson*	Joni Scandola
Kathleen Ferguson Quinn	Fred Klinkhammer	Ed Serotta
Natalie Fisher*	Kishor Kulkarni	Michael Smith*
Jill Force	Frank Mitchell	Georgina Steinsky
Melissa Frisvold	Judi Palay*	Mary Tousignant
Judith Gates	Vivian Patterson	Julie Van Egmond
Maria Grant	Bob Place	Greg Weber*
Ken Hallett	Erna Place	Martha Williams
	Bobbi Polacheck	

Chair: Lillian Veri

** Final Readers*

REGISTRATION STAFF

Betty Badolato	Elaine DeVries	Bonnie Parass
Sue Blanton	Linda Miller	Barb Rigo
Alice Brusky	Kirk Mogren	Sue Roedel
Nancy Cerbone	Joyce Moses	Lois Samuelson
Nancy Cohen	Julia Moss	Liz Skorupa

Chair: Chris Korkoian

Special thanks to...

- The social studies coordinators of Collier (Mikie Stroh), Charlotte (Donna Dunakey), and Lee counties
- Florida Gulf Coast University for the use of their facilities
- Dr. Clay Motley, Dean of the FGCU College of Arts and Sciences, for his steadfast support
- Dr. Michael McDonald and the Global Engagement Office for their leadership and assistance
- Our photographer, Dennis Parass
- Our treasurer, Robert Roussel, and accountant, Michael DeMas, who keep us in strong financial shape throughout the year
- Eric Lemboris for his valuable help during the competition and steadfast support for Model UN throughout the year
- Avery Armand for her ongoing support to SWFLMUN, perpetual can-do attitude, and willingness to manage the UnMod Lounge
- FGCU Director John Bledsoe and his IT team for their essential support
- Ricky Coughlin for his help with the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and quickly resolving computer-related glitches during the competition
- Malani Plancher for her excellent performance incubating and encouraging new Model UN teams and students
- Lynn Knox for her quick response and follow up with new Model UN teachers and faculty advisors, serving as an essential resource for them
- The members of the Naples Council on World Affairs, without whose generous contributions we could not exist

Attention High School Sophomores

The Naples Council on World Affairs is offering **fully funded SUMMER 2026 scholarships** for rising seniors with strong academic records and a keen interest in **International Relations**.

These scholarships provide the opportunity to attend prestigious programs, including:

International Programs

- **Oxford Academia** (Putney program) – England
- **Tufts University European Center** – France
- **The Experiment in International Living** – Locations in Germany, Japan, and Costa Rica

North American-Based Programs

- **Georgetown University & American University** – Washington, D.C.
- **Harvard University** – Cambridge, MA
- **Tufts University** – Medford, MA

(These programs focus on International Relations, International Law, and National Security.)

Application Deadline: December 15, 2025



**NAPLES
COUNCIL ON
WORLD
AFFAIRS**

Your Passport to Global Affairs



The UnMod Lounge is a place to work, read, grab a bite or a sip, or just chat. No time limits (or delegates) here! Just a place for coaches, judges, guests and staff to chill out and unwind.



Find it in
The Water School
(AB9)
Room 222



Strike a Pose

Post your SWFLMUN best moments and be sure to **tag us!**

#SWFLMUN



**PARKING
LOT 8**

**PARKING
GARAGE 1**

**(AB 9)
WATER
SCHOOL**

**COHEN
STUDENT
UNION**

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**Thank you to the following schools and coaches
who are participating in the
2025 Model United Nations Program**

Aubrey Rogers High School	Marc Lyba
Babcock High School	Grant Healy
Barron Collier High School	Charles Shanks
Bishop Verot High School	Gregory Koziuk
Canterbury School	Ronald Young
Cardinal Mooney High School	Elizabeth Smith
Cypress Lake High School	Kelly Stutz, Jennifer Lessinger
Donahue Academy	Tyler Graham
Fort Myers High School	Ashlyn Cole
Gulf Coast High School	Susan Soulard, Kristan Welty
Lake Nona High School	Haiet Ashar
Lely High School	Ingrid Arguelles
Lemon Bay High School	Michelle Chacon
Naples High School	Rose Argueta
North Fort Myers High School	Tiffany Graves-Bucher
Palmetto Ridge High School	Juniace Etienne
Port Charlotte High School	Ali Hofstetter, Connor Jones
St. John Neumann High School	Stan Armour