

The background of the cover is a photograph of a city skyline at night. On the left, a large suspension bridge with illuminated cables and towers is visible. To the right, a dense cluster of skyscrapers is lit up, with their lights reflecting on the water in the foreground. The sky is a deep twilight blue. The entire image is framed by a light gray border.

H S I N M U N X V I I

PRE-CONFERENCE ISSUE

welcome to hsinmun!!

HSINMUN is Hsinchu's very own Model United Nations conference, hosted annually for the seventeenth year by the International Bilingual School at Hsinchu Science-Park. The event originated as a small, local conference to encourage students in Hsinchu to participate in learning about the workings of the most esteemed international summit. Over the years, it has expanded its reach as an international and the only THIMUN-affiliated conference in Taiwan. HSINMUN aims to provide insights into world issues dealt with by the UN, as well as proffering students an opportunity to voice their own thoughts in handling pressing situations. The team working behind the scenes of HSINMUN XVII has done so tirelessly through many months leading up to the conference, to ensure that this conference is refined and to guarantee an enjoyable experience for all. However, the purpose of HSINMUN reaches beyond tackling the harsh implications of current affairs; it also serves as a ground for teaching skills such as critical thinking, public speaking, team management, etc. The committees will be discussing issues pertaining to the theme of "Multicasualty: A World Connected," which will cover questions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, politics, poverty, and many others. This fall, the participants will be standing together not just to debate, but also to share their new perspectives and ideas, aiming for resolutions that will satisfy all involved parties



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TOTAL ATTENDEES

20

SCHOOLS

1

CONFERENCE

Written by: Matthew Lai
Layout by: Wony Yu
Edited by: Maxine Tseng and
Patricia Hung

INTERVIEW WITH



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Written by Allison Liu | Layout by Anneena Lin | Edited by Cheney Lee and Patricia Hung

Introducing Dr. Allen Lien

Meet this year's keynote speaker, Dr. Allen Lien! Dr. Lien currently serves as the director of Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corporation, a Taiwan-based biomedical company that develops and manufactures COVID-19 vaccines. He was first involved in the pharmaceutical industry when studying for his doctoral degree for public health at Harvard. Prior to his experience working on pharmaceutical research, he traveled to Burkina Faso as a health diplomat for Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and later joined a non-governmental organization as a medical volunteer. He grasped the importance of conducting vaccine research from his experience in Africa, realizing that treatments are insufficient because they do not prevent infectious diseases from spreading. Thus, when the COVID pandemic started, he immediately saw an opportunity to contribute to his homeland, Taiwan, through his field of expertise. "Had it not been the COVID pandemic or the chance to join a Taiwan based vaccine research program, the job itself would not have been in my plan," Dr. Lien reflected. Prompted by his yearn to partake in the effort of the nationwide public health solution in the ongoing pandemic, he returned to Taiwan, joining the Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corporation.

The Medigen Vaccine Biologics Corporation is located in Hsinchu Biomedical Science Park. This company is tasked with developing biomedical technologies, upholding the mission to prevent the spreading of infectious diseases such as COVID-19. Currently, more than three million citizens all around Taiwan have registered to be vaccinated with the vaccine that has been developed by the company, and certified with a 2+ biosafety level .

Dr. Lien reiterates the significance of developing empathy in our interconnected world, especially during the global pandemic. It is only through observing society through the lenses of empathy, that we will be granted an extensive understanding of both the roots and the progression of the issue. Only after developing a more trenchant view of affairs--both on an international and individual level--can we draft solutions and take actions accordingly. He reflects upon an incident when he was unable to think in others' perspectives. During his years in Africa, he once witnessed kids of five and seven years old in Bin Laden-T-shirts dancing around cheerfully, celebrating the September 11 terrorist attack. He was appalled by their reactions of genuine joy and exhilaration to the distressing event; their attitudes diverged far from his anticipations. Yet, this atypical incident became his moment of epiphany: "we think differently because of the variation between the set of information we received", he realized. In a message to all participants of HSINMUN XVII, Dr. Lien reminds delegates to stay open to varied perspectives, especially when evaluating multifaceted situations. Once we've acknowledged the entirety of the issue, with empathy, our worldly view will be enhanced.

COVID-19 at Present

Written by Matthew Lai | Layout by Anneena Lin | Edited by Maxine Tseng & Patricia Hung



Source: Which.co.uk

Although the Black Death occurred centuries ago, Covid-19 engendered a pandemic that has wreaked havoc of similar magnitude in our modern world. What caused such a deadly situation? No one knows where the virus originated from, but many experts claim it first spread near the end of 2019, in Wuhan, China. The virus quickly spread across the entire globe in the short span of 3 months, by March 2020. The pandemic has disrupted various aspects of our lives: the economy, politics, and social stability. This situation has also altered the course of history, forcing schools to turn to online platforms, many workers to lose their jobs, and . Countless families have suffered from the pervasive disease: ranging from those who have lost their lives, to having to completely alter their lifestyles. Despite the new influx of vaccines rolling out left and right, there is still much uncharted territory in understanding the long-term adverse effects such new technology will have.

Due to its impressive ability to survive and infect new targets, the virus traveled throughout the world in just three to four months. The fact that it was often downplayed definitely took the world by surprise, altering the lives of billions. Although the initial plan was to shut down schools for two weeks, many quickly turned to online platforms for a full virtual education system in less than a month; online school has already been extended for many months. The virus-induced severe lockdowns in multiple regions negatively impacted businesses and those with jobs that rely on going out. Many were laid off due to the businesses not being able to support themselves, and small/ family businesses closed for good due to the pandemic.



Source: Reuters

Many groups that have been affected more heavily than the general population include older people, people with disabilities, and indigenous people. These minorities are more vulnerable to the disease and some are even unable to combat it in any way, the pandemic also negatively impacts them in many ways, such as restricting them from medical treatments and creating negative stereotypes, examples would be thinking they are of less importance or not as in need of medical assistance because they're more likely to not survive than an average healthy young person. These stereotypes further damage the already discriminated minorities, rendering them completely helpless in some situations. Plus, many of them live in third-world countries where they are outright ignored and can not afford vaccines.

Rich countries continue to stock up vaccines that will be left in storage while third world countries get less than 1% of administered vaccines. Right now what we should focus on is distributing the vaccines to everyone, regardless of needs. Only then can the pandemic truly end. Encourage first-world countries to share the extra vaccines they have and give them to people who can't afford them.

With total cases of 197 million and death of 4.2 million and counting, the disease is easily one of the deadliest for the last several decades. The virus, being airborne and spreading through oral and nostril droplets, only became more deadly as the virus mutilates a delta variant. First observed in India and twice as easy to spread, it soon made its way to America and other countries. As of July 5th, 2021, the delta variant has been observed in 96 countries. There are many ways to battle these variants and stay protected from the virus, including but not limited to; wearing a mask, washing hands frequently, using hand sanitizer, practicing self-quarantine, and social distancing.

Hundreds of millions are sick of staying at home and social distancing, more importantly, as this article is being written, hundreds are dying and getting hospitalized because of the virus. No one knows about the future of the pandemic as the information we have about the virus is rapidly changing every day, but we can do our best to make the end come as soon as possible.



Source: NPR

COVID-19



Source: Yahoo News

PROTESTS IN CUBA

Written by Melody Fan | Layout by Michelle Lee | Edited by Maxine Tseng & Patricia Hung

On July 11th 2021, a series of nationwide protests began on the island of Cuba. Originating in the city of San Antonio de los Baños, the movement quickly spread across the island, becoming the largest anti-government demonstration in nearly six decades. While many news outlets cite the government's inadequate response to the coronavirus as the source of the demonstrations, local Cubans state that the lack of basic necessities, economic reforms, and civil liberties (which were only worsened by the coronavirus outbreak) are the true causes of the protests. According to the director of the Americas Division of Human Rights Watch, "[T]his is a combination of social unrest based on a lack of freedoms, and covid, and economic conditions. The lack of access to electricity. The blackouts. ... People are screaming for freedom" (Vivanco 2021). As a nation, Cuba is currently on the brink of economic collapse with little to no resources available to deal with the crisis. Its communist regime has left its citizens to suffer, reportedly blaming the U.S. embargo for the nation's lack of resources. The Cuban civilians have responded through mass protests calling to end the single-party Communist regime and the resignation of President Miguel Díaz-Canel.

Upon taking their protest to the streets, Cubans have faced harsh backlash from the government. Protesters have been attacked, tear gassed, and arrested by the Cuban state force. Based on reports from the human rights group Cubalex, as of July 30th, approximately 700 protesters had been arrested (of which only 189 were freed). Many of these arrests were followed by mass trials and swift convictions. Some citizens have had trials without a lawyer; Anyelo Troya, a Cuban photographer, was arrested after he was charged in the midst of protests in hopes of photographing some of it. He was tried and convicted with the charge of instigating unrest a week later, responding, "How is this just when I haven't seen a lawyer and I am innocent?" Although the Cuban government has attempted to convince the public that these trials are taking place under due process, this crackdown is a glaring example of the government's blatant disregard for civil liberties. Aside from the mass trials, there has also been at least one death as of July 14. Diubis Laurencio Tejeda, age 36, died in Havana as the result of police violence against local protesters.

Aside from marching in the streets, Cuban protesters have taken to the internet, utilizing social media platforms such as Facebook to raise awareness of their movement. Cubans both on and off the islands have voiced their grievances against the Communist regime, sharing stories about the severe food and medical shortages in Cuba. Part of the reason that the current demonstrations are the largest in nearly six decades, is because social media has given Cubans the power to mobilize on a massive scale. The government however, has responded to the popularity of this movement by shutting off the island's Wi-fi and spread misinformation regarding the protesters. When faced with international criticism for their actions, Cuban officials have reportedly defended themselves by calling protesters "vandals" and "criminals". According to the Cuban regime, the recent demonstrations are part of a United States backed coup, which they are using to shift blame to the U.S. in order to justify their crackdown against protesters.

As of now, there has not been significant improvement on the situation in Cuba. Although the government has temporarily lifted restrictions on food and medicine that are imported without duties, Cubans are still suffering from a severe shortage of food, medicine, electricity, and civil liberties. There are still hundreds of protesters that are detained or reported missing. However, the international community (especially the U.S.) has yet to answer Cuba's call for humanitarian aid, though many have shown their solidarity on the internet. Marco Rubio, a Cuban American Senator, has reportedly called on the U.S. government to aid the Cuban people. He tweeted, "The incompetent Communist Party of #Cuba cannot feed or protect the people from the virus. Now those in the military must defend the people not the Communist Party" (Rubio 2021).

Meet the Secretariat Team

Written by: Ian Lin | Layout by: Nina Liu | Edited by: Cheney Lee

Parliamentarian: Mollie Cheng



As a senior at IBSH, Mollie demonstrates incredible talent and passion for public speaking. Aside from public speaking, she is a fervent rock climber who constantly strives to surpass all expectations and exceed her own limits. Because of this sport, Mollie started to follow professional rock climber Brooke Raboutou and began to understand “power of perseverance and grit.” Possibly because of this realization, she devoted herself to MUN after her first experience at HSINMUN, starting as a delegate. Despite facing adversity during her MUN journey, she continued to persevere and live with her passion, eventually rising to deputy president position and finally the Parliamentarian in the Secretariat Team. As a veteran debater and MUN participant, Mollie believes that active communication is the key for success during public speaking events because it fosters smooth coordination within the groups and allows clear projection of ideas. Being able to master this skill, anyone can become a role model at the MUN.

Secretary General: Ellen Ryoo

Ellen Ryoo, a senior at IBSH, will be serving as the Secretary General for HSINMUN XVII. When asked about her perspective of MUN, she stated that it is an opportunity for students to come together and discuss the world’s most dire issues and gain new perspectives on international affairs. From attending multiple conferences in Taiwan and overseas, Ryoo not only expanded her knowledge, but was also able to establish new relationships that are important to her. Also, Ryoo and her team spent an extensive time organizing one of Taiwan’s biggest conferences, providing a chance for the delegates to have the same experience. Spending months and months on preparing for this conference, she and the secretariat team learned to handle unexpected situations. Ryoo looks forward to the debates and hopes that all delegates will have something to take away from this year’s conference.



Deputy Secretary General 1: Alex Chen



Alex Chen, a senior at IBSH, lives by the maxim: “the best way to predict the future is to create it.” As a fan of Elon Musk, Alex believes that innovation brings progress and success, and HSINMUN is the canvas where he can express creativity while tackling current events. One of the historical events that inspire him the most is none other than the invention of the World Wide Web in 1989. Not only does the impact of this creation astonished him, but it also solidifies his belief that innovation is of paramount importance for anyone to advance. During free time, Chen enjoys playing the guitar and playing shooter games with his friends online. HSINMUN, from his perspective, is a time when brilliant minds from schools across Taiwan gather together to spark novel ideas regarding current events and global issues, as well as “inspire leadership and engender global awareness.”

Deputy Secretary General 2: James Lee

James Lee, a junior from IBSH, started his MUN journey at HSINMUN. He believes that, HSINMUN, whether it be in person or online, is a great opportunity for participants to branch out and develop friendships with people that they aren't familiar with. As the UN is a major intergovernmental organization, it would have been interesting to see how it was like in its beginning years. When asked about his inspirations, Lee stated that his life got impacted by Alice Oseman, a British author and illustrator, who has written numerous young adult. Oseman inspired not only him, but also other people through numerous novels that tackled the issues that people in the LGBTQ+ community face. Outside of MUN, he enjoys helping out the community as well as advocating for causes that he believes in. Although the conference may seem just like a conference, he believes that this is a great way not only to learn but also a great way to develop professionalism.



Deputy Secretary General 3: Sophia Zuo



If she had owned a time machine, she would travel back to the 2011 Where Them Girls At GMA live performance. A gregarious junior at IBSH, Sophia Zuo has a deep-rooted passion for debating and commanding. Oftentimes, she would bounce around speaking on Deteste This! Podcast, wandering in the dazzling world of music, and plunging into her sea of “to be read” book lists during her free time. However, she also spends a great portion of her time living inside the HSINMUN community, where she constantly meets new friends, grows intellectually, and guides the new MUNers through their first conference. Her experience at HSINMUN has not only improved her public speaking skills profoundly but has also taught her to listen to what others have to offer. She believes that it is imperative for a veteran of HSINMUN to learn to listen to others, especially the newcomers because only by understanding their thoughts can a leader guide them into their roles and into successful paths as MUNers.

Meet the WORKING TEAM

Written by Matthew Lai
Layout by Anneena Lin
Edited by Cheney Lee



Maxine Tseng
Editor-in-Chief

Maxine Tseng, a rising senior from IBSH, will be serving as the Press Editor-in-Chief for HSINMUN XII. Tseng has been engaged with MUN since seventh grade and has taken multiple positions at HSINMUN throughout past years, but this is her first time being part of the Press team. To ensure the quality of the conference, she communicates with the working team and assists her team by working as efficiently as possible. Because of the Covid situation this year, she is excited to see how everyone will face these intertwined issues and events. Her favorite part of the MUN is how friendly the delegates are, and the environment that is always open for new insights and ideas.



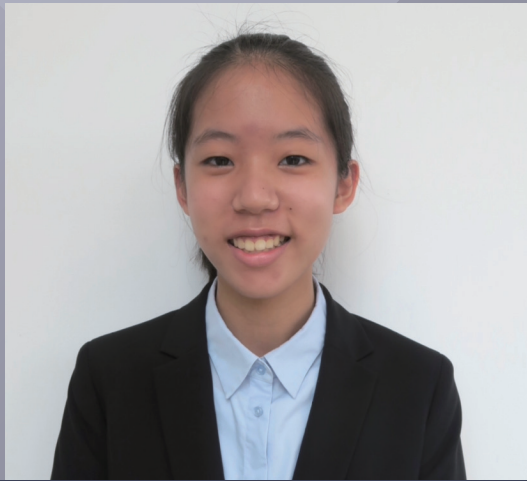
Patricia Hung
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Patricia Hung, a rising Junior in IBSH, will be serving as the Co-Editor-in-Chief this year. Her love and passion for HSINMUN started when she first joined the conference in eighth grade. She believes that this year's theme is interesting as it touches on the most pressing issues in the world today and will help better the society we live in. One thing she loves about the MUN is how the members can work together and overcome challenges together. One motto that she follows is, "Go out of your comfort zone," and she recommends others to pursue this lifestyle that has helped shape her character and encourage her to learn new things.



Cheney Lee
Co-Editor-in-Chief

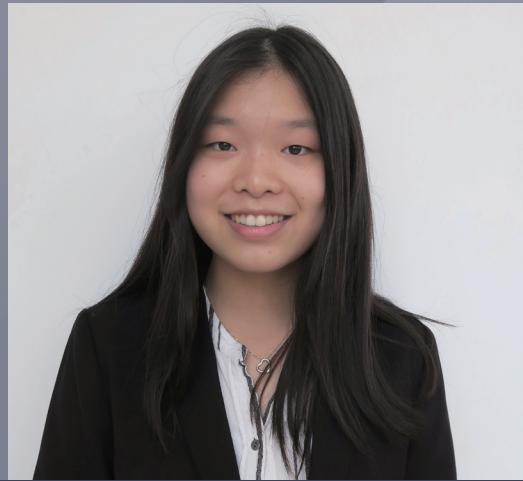
Cheney Lee, a rising senior from IBSH, will be serving as the Press Co-Editor-in-Chief this year. She was inspired to join the MUN after seeing how impressive the press members are at creating articles, layouts, and taking pictures throughout the conference. Her favorite part of being in the MUN is discussing with others and bringing the best solution for issues. Some mottoes she lives by are: "Mistakes are often the greatest teachers," and "Tomorrow is another day." Her advice to new MUN members would be not to be afraid to try new things and voice your opinion. She believes that everyone's perspective is significant in their own way, so don't be afraid of trying anything!



Katie Chen

Administration Coordinator

As the Administration Coordinator, Katie Chen, a rising senior, will be serving for this year's HSINMUN working team. Regarding this year's topic, she believes that it is particularly important since the world is more connected than ever before. Moreover, she believes that everyone should be more aware of our actions so as to not perpetuate "negative butterfly effects." Chen's favorite part of being in the MUN is the opportunity it offers to learn about the world, debate on different topics, and meet new people all over Taiwan through the various conferences.



Sheena Chiang

*Deputy
Administration Coordinator*

Sheena Chiang, a rising Junior, will be serving as Deputy Administration Coordinator for this year's HSINMUN. Chiang's tasks include overseeing the physical preparations for HSINMUN and coordinating the admins. The formality of MUN procedures motivated her to join, as it made her feel like an adult: professional, articulate, and serious. Her favorite moment during conferences is when delegates actively oppose and challenge her resolutions because it allows her to defend and prove her points while reflecting on her stance critically.



Karen Tsung

Treasurer

Karen Tsung, a senior in IBSH, is serving as HSINMUN XII's treasurer. Tsung was motivated to participate in MUN because of her interest in global issues that affect human rights. Her favorite part of being in the MUN is the debate sessions that train one to become a critical thinker, which has helped her grow in many aspects of her life. When we asked about this year's topic, Tsung replied that society improves greatly when everyone, especially locals, involves themselves in organisations and work to solve issues in the region. She especially looks up to Sylvia Earle, a marine biologist, because of her enthusiasm and efforts in research and protecting the blue heart of our planet.



Yu An Lai

IT Coordinator

Yu An, a rising junior, will be serving as the IT coordinator for HSINMUN XII. As the IT Coordinator, Lai's duties include anything involving technology throughout the conference. When we asked how he will deal with arising problems, he replied he would simply keep in mind that it is his responsibility to make the conference run as smoothly as possible and make sure any tech-related problems are quickly resolved. His favorite part of being in MUN is being able to learn and explore more about the world. Moreover, the advice that he wishes to deliver to new MUN members is to enjoy every moment because it will be a truly rewarding experience.

GA1

Disarmament and International Security

Written by Zoe Liu | Layout by Michelle Lee | Edited by Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



CHAIR: MEERA SAMANI (TAS)

Meera Samani, the Head Chair of General Assembly 1, is a senior from Taipei American School. She has been involved in MUN for around 7 years, drawn through her interest in meeting people from various places. One of her main sources of motivation in participating in MUN is to understand political interactions between countries, as she has grown up in Singapore--a place of many diverse political beliefs. HSINMUN will be her 27th conference, and the 10th serving as chair. Regarding the issues in her committee, Issue (301) Demilitarization and Stabilization of the African region and Issue (302) Fostering the peaceful development of outer space, she believes the most important thing is the de-escalation of conflict and the promotion of peace. Regarding the issues in her committee, Issue (301) Demilitarization and Stabilization of the African region and Issue (302) Fostering the peaceful development of outer space, she thinks the most important thing is the de-escalation of conflict and the promotion of peace, and thus she supports the stabilization of the African region and the peaceful development of outer space. She also identified how the basis of the issues tie into the theme of multicausality: "there is never one sole factor that is to blame for any given situation." As the African region has been plagued by conflict for decades, Samani believes "the single cause for this [state of] destabilization not be pinpointed." She also recognized that, "it is obvious that it was not one person or one state that simply kick-started space warfare, and that there are a heap of factors and events that occurred across time for this to have come and taken place." Keeping the state of the pandemic in mind, she hopes that delegates not only use HSINMUN XVII to push themselves out of their comfort zones, but also abide by the tighter regulations on interpersonal interactions.

Emily Ni, a senior from Hsinchu Girls Senior Highschool, is the Deputy Chair of General Assembly 1. She first participated in the Model UN club in 8th grade because of how exciting it is to meet new people at conferences, and diving into the new fields of interest she is able to develop throughout each experience. HSINMUN XVII will be the second conference she attends as a chair. Ni has decided to attend HSINMUN again because she found the topics of discussion last year enlightening, and was surprised by the interesting theme and thoughtful perspectives presented at the conference. "It's always a pleasure to see MUN conferences shed light on the dire issues that are often overlooked, other than the usual hackneys," she said. "This makes me very excited to be a part of this wonderful event." She is excited to attend this year because MUN has enabled her to make many wonderful friends and long-lasting memories, all the while teaching her to expand her views and understanding of global issues. She hopes the delegates will find the soul of the conference throughout these few days, and "walk" out of GA1 with new-found treasures for their future adventures. Regarding Issue (102), promoting peace and security of exploration developments and the use of outer space for the benefit of all humanity, she "personally believe[s] that outer space is a place where humans can work together for all humanity, let the conflicts and disputes stay down on earth and look upward for a better future." Aside from MUN, Ni deeply enjoys drawing and learning social studies, the lessons from which she will continue to apply to such conferences.



CO-CHAIR: EMILY NI (HGHS)

GA2

Economic and Financial

Written by Zoe Liu | Layout by Wei Hsi Mar | Edited by Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



**CHAIR: DANIEL
LIN (IBST)**

Lin argues that capitalism is inherently neutral, but the regulation of this system is what determines whether it is beneficial or malicious. Reflecting on HSINMUN's theme of multicausality, Lin believes that this term highlights the need for global solutions to global problems. "[M]any different solutions can achieve the same intended results while also incurring different externalities," he said.

Siaya Kaufman is the Deputy Chair of General Assembly 2 and a junior at Hsinchu International School. She has been an MUNer since 7th grade, attending around 15 conferences, with HSINMUN XVII being her second chairing experience. Kaufman joined MUN in middle school upon learning that it helps with public speaking and debating, but it's the memories of how eager committee members assisted her during her first conference that has motivated her to continue participating in the activity. "Despite how much I was struggling to speak without stuttering every five seconds, my fellow committee members were patient with me and even offered to help me when I stumbled upon problems," she said. A few parts of MUN she treasures is the opportunity it offers students to grapple with world issues while challenging them to compose solutions that satisfy various stances, as well as meeting new people from different places. She claims that HSINMUN is one of her favorite conferences because of the friendly atmosphere generated by the high attendance of delegates, which assists her in fighting her nerves of speaking in front of a crowd. As the expert chair for Issue (402), Promoting sustainable foreign investment in underdeveloped regions, Kaufman has found value in how foreign investments alleviate the gravity of underfunding in LEDCs. "There are many reasons that play [a] part in why developing regions struggle so much and one of the main ones is that they struggle to expand their economy and make income," she said, relating the issue with the conference's theme of multicausality.



**CO-CHAIR: SAIYA
KAUFMAN (HIS)**

GAB and GAC

Written by: Ian Lin | Layout by: Wony Yu | Edited by: Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



CHAIR: WILSON TANG (HIS)

As a senior student at HIS, Wilson holds strong academic interests in biology, especially human anatomy. Given his curiosity in humans, he hopes to travel back in time to observe how human civilizations had progressed from the Stone Age to the modern era. In his leisure time, he enjoys watching TV shows such as *The Flash* and playing *League of Legends*. He is especially fascinated by *Brooklyn Nine-nine's* clear references made to biology through forensic science and other fantastic means. While being forced to stay at home during the eruption of COVID cases, Wilson enriched his repetitive and mundane life by mastering a variety of dishes, becoming the chef of the house. Having seen the unabated success of HIMUN last year, Wilson believes that HSINMUN XVII would also be a success!

With a deep interest in English, Kerrienne, a junior at TAS, utilizes her free time to delve into the literary world of infinite possibilities. At school, she deeply enjoys English class because of the captivating literary topics and the teacher's creative yet engaging method of teaching. Furthermore, she is deeply absorbed in the American sitcom series *Modern Family*, which is a comical reflection of real-life family situations. Not only is Kerrienne an explorer of the literary world, but she is also an adventurer of novel experiences. She hopes that she is able to live during the turn of the millennium from 1999 to 2000 and celebrate the coming of a new era. As an experienced chair, Kerrienne values her experience because it has enabled her to gain confidence in public speaking and leadership, encouraging her to continue her role as a chair in this year's HSINMUN. Although she values in-person communication and interaction, she still believes that an online conference is the better option in this case of emergency, and looks forward to the new virtual experience of HSINMUN XVII.



CO-CHAIR: KERRI-ANNE CHIU (TAS)



CHAIR: EMILY HUANG (TAS)

Is she a future politician who leads the world to peace and prosperity? Will she join the police force as an accomplished forensic scientist? TAS junior Emily Huang, having a keen interest in both crime or law-related television series and political science, demonstrates a strong passion for inter-phrontistery conferences, especially HSINMUN. Although she does not have much prior experience for HSINMUN, her understanding of the conference and knowledge about politics propels her to experience what it is like to interact with a nationwide student community. Despite being enraptured by the complexity of political science and the Daedalian storyline of most crime shows, she hopes to travel back to a time that many of us have wished to go back to: the stress-free childhood life when everything is still fun and simple. As of now, she is ready to be part of the HSINMUN community and strive to bring positive changes to our politically conflicted society.

A singer. A future economist. An impassioned HSINMUN chair. Allison is all of them! Living a vibrant and fruitful life, Allison enjoys doing Taekwondo and singing. Having a strong interest in Taekwondo, she began to train competitively for national competitions in 2014. Similarly, she chose to step out of her comfort zone and started to host singing performances at her school. Academically, Allison is enraptured by the interdisciplinary nature of Economics as it combines Mathematic principles with trends learned in Global Studies. Despite the wide array of interests she holds, COVID-19 has significantly impacted her life. Without the opportunity to go out and experience the world outside, she did not have much chance to expand her interests. In fact, she hopes that she could travel back in time to her freshman year, the awesome high school time before the advent of the Covidian era. Nevertheless, she looks forward to HSINMUN XVII and meeting everyone through Cisco.



CO-CHAIR: ALLISON CHEN (KAS)

GA 6

Legal

Written by Allison Liu | Layout by Wei Hsi Mar | Edited by Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



**CHAIR: WILLIAM
YEH (KAS)**

William Yeh, a senior at Kaohsiung American School, is the head chair of General Assembly 6 for HSINMUN XVII. To him, debate has never been necessarily about winning an argument. Rather, he values nuanced approaches and perspectives opposing sides deal with complex issues to help him understand the discussion. This couldn't be more true with MUN: in the span of two days, witnessing delegates working together, and acknowledging their various stances in navigating today's complex social framework has been very rewarding to him. Upon attending his first HSINMUN conference in tenth grade, this conference has become one of his favorite annual experiences. Among his many reasons for attending HSINMUN, he highlights that the constant engagement and quality of debate amongst delegates each year has been inspiring, and is impressed by how the International Bilingual School at Hsinchu Science Park has raised awareness of pressing global issues among its students. William is excited to meet the delegates, and welcomes them to GA6, a platform for discussing legal questions. Weaponization, artificial intelligence, and the ethical implications of technology all play major roles in modern society, so William looks forward to seeing delegates grapple with the logistical and the legal, as well as developing a better understanding

of the ever-evolving ethics in the digital age. In terms of the development of weaponization, he believes that it is incredibly important to recognize the gap in resources different powers throughout the world hold--from MEDC to LEDC nations. William expresses that this year's theme of multicausality is extremely pertinent, as it is only through recognizing the various facets of an issue are nations able to coalesce and become more resilient to new challenges.

A sophomore at Hsinchu International School, Kyra Dean will serve as the co-chair of General Assembly 6. Having first joined MUN in seventh grade, she has attended nine conferences and chaired once since then. Though she was initially unsure of her own abilities, and especially troubled by impromptu speeches, she has gained confidence and became a better debater after participating in numerous MUN conferences. Reflecting upon her previous experiences at HSINMUN as a delegate, she commented that "the delegates at HSINMUN are all so experienced and original with the solutions they come up with." She has always remained motivated and challenged herself throughout the years to improve her debate and critical thinking skills. HSINMUN has drastically helped her become the improved debater and leader she is today. Kyra is honored to contribute to this conference, and hopes to utilize her leadership abilities to help younger delegates gain the confidence she lacked when she first started participating in MUN. Despite the difficulties she has encountered, they have made her experience pleasurable. She enjoys meeting new people from all over Taiwan. "It's also fun to pretend to be a world leader solving the world's most important problems in 48 hours or less," she said. Through such experiences, she has learned to consider current events and world issues from the position of a whole nation, stimulating open-mindedness, creativity, negotiation, and awareness. She also takes interest in social studies, where she continuously learns new facts about the world, educating herself on its rich history. Drawing a parallel with learning to evaluate the past in social studies, we discuss and formulate future policies in MUN. Kyra reminds delegates to bear in mind that issues don't just have one leading source, and hopes to see well rounded solutions and negotiations that take all problems associated with the central issue into consideration.



**CO-CHAIR: KYRA
DEAN (HIS)**

Environment and Human Rights Council

Written by: David Tang | Layout by: Nina Liu | Edited by: Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



PRESIDENT: VARUN BALAKRISHNAN (IBSH)

Varun Balakrishnan, a junior at International Bilingual School at Hsinchu, is the head chair of the Environment committee for HSINMUN XVII. Balakrishnan first joined HSINMUN as an admin back in 7th grade and he instantly fell in love with the diplomacy and the social aspects of the conference. In fact, he loved the whole conference so much that he never missed a single HSINMUN conference ever since. As he would be chairing a middle school committee with it being the first conference for most delegates there, he ultimately just wants all delegates in the Environment Committee to simply not be afraid to speak up and most importantly have a fun time. His fondest memories from MUN all occurred at HSINMUN. From the people he meets, to the intense debate, HSINMUN really is a great environment to branch out of your comfort zones and ultimately it's just a really fun weekend.

Jackie Huang, a sophomore at Pacific American School, will serve as the co-chair of the Environment committee. Last year, Huang attended HSINMUN as a middle school delegate. This year, he hopes to give back to the conference, and the MUN community as a whole, by participating as a chair. Besides, he believes that HSINMUN took good care of its catering service last year and he can't wait to see what food it has to offer this time! He hopes that everyone can engage in the conference, render fruitful debates, and genuinely enjoy every part of the moment!



DEP. PRESIDENT: JACKIE HUANG (PAS)



PRESIDENT: VIVIAN CHIU (IBST)

Vivian Chiu, a junior at International Bilingual School at Tainan Science park, is the head chair of Human Rights Council in HSINMUN XVII. As Chiu stated, HSINMUN was her first conference in sixth grade and since then, she has been able to step out of her comfort zone through the help of her chairs. She joined HSINMUN because she wanted to become like the chairs that guided her through her first conference and now she wants to inspire delegates to immerse themselves in the world of MUN, to be global citizens, and to propose new ideas without hesitation and not be intimidated by older delegates. She looks forward to delegates stepping out of their comfort zone, always asking for help when they need it, and focusing not on passing resolutions, but engaging in many different ideas to propose the best solution possible. But above all: understanding that they are tomorrow's leaders; through this conference, every contribution, effort, and step they make to resolve these plaguing issues is a great impact to the world.

Anderson Liew, a junior at International Bilingual School at Hsinchu Science Park, will serve as the co-chair for Human Rights Council in HSINMUN XVII. Liew joined HSINMUN to keep up my dedication which he's maintained since starting out in the MUN club during eighth grade. This year, he hopes to see delegates having more background knowledge on not one but both issues. He would also like to see all delegates speak more considering some may be afraid or nervous. What I like about HSINMUN is the conference's size. It encompasses from American schools to even local ones. The fact that the conference also has people attending from another country, illustrates the diversity this event offers. He really enjoys debating and interacting with people that he has never met and he stated that, "It really brings out the heart of Model UN's spirit. You represent yourself in your country's best interest, with delegates from all over the world." Overall, he really feels like the atmosphere from HSINMUN and other MUN conferences has matured him to face greater differences he might encounter in the future, and also allowed him to find a platform where I could best showcase my passion.



DEP. PRESIDENT: ANDERSON LIEW (IBSH)

UNDP

United Nations Development Programme | UNaMUN Procedure

Written by: Zoe Liu | Layout by: Nina Liu | Edited by: Cheney Lee



PRESIDENT: FELIPE DOMBKOWSKI (IBST)

Felipe Dombkowski, the President of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), is a senior from the American School in Taichung. He attended his first conference simply because his friends were going, but was soon attached to the people from different backgrounds integrating their various ideas into resolutions that MUN attracts. HSINMUN was the first conference he attended out of interest, as he enjoyed its professional atmosphere. Despite missing the chance to chair at HSINMUN last year, he stated that he “wanted to run it back one last time before graduating.” In terms of the issues that will be discussed in his committee, Dombkowski demonstrates his firm stance in support of sovereignty. For Issue (801), Measures to prevent the stockpiling of medical resources, he believes that while global health is important, sovereignty is the baseline that cannot be crossed. As the expert chair of Issue (802), Reducing global poverty in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals, he believes that more developed nations should serve as consultants to developing nations, but also with respect to the nation’s sovereignty. To provide a possible solution for the issue, he stated that culture is an obstacle to the eradication of poverty and believes it can be solved through showing people that culture is dynamic and subject to change. Interestingly enough, Dombkowski revealed that most nations

struggling with gender inequality also have high rates of poverty because women are unable to provide for themselves; this shows how many reasons tie into the challenges of poverty. However, if women are educated, it gives them a way out of the situation. Preparing to chair at his last HSINMUN conference, Dombkowski hopes delegates to not only collaborate to create strong solutions to the pressing issues, but also to see the more experienced delegates encourage new participants to be more assertive.

Heidi Hsu, the Deputy President of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) of HSINMUN XII, is a senior at the International Bilingual School at Hsinchu Science Park. This is her 10th conference overall, and 2nd as a chair. She joined MUN to improve her public speaking skills, and has been attracted by the chance to meet and befriend new people, as well as to formulate extensive solutions for the issues at hand ever since. Hsu has decided to participate in HSINMUN VXII not only because the conference is hosted by her own school, but also because she enjoys the debate quality of HSINMUN. Regarding the first issue in UNDP this year, Hsu stated that “[s]tockpiling of medical equipment should be greatly reduced but not completely prevented, for they could still be of some use at critical times; we should try focusing on how to manage and distribute them in an effective and timely manner.” For the second issue, Hsu expressed her firm stance on reducing the poverty line. She also expressed that the issues being discussed are consequences of several different factors, and thus they result in many repercussions. “[D]ue to prioritization decisions, limited federal power, underfunding, and other reasons, consequences like equipment scarcity and supply expiration have resulted” in the stockpiling situation, she said. She “hope[s] to see extensive collaborative effort among delegates and passionate and productive discussions,” without COVID-19 protocols affecting the quality of the conference.



DEP. PRESIDENT: HEIDI HSU (IBSH)

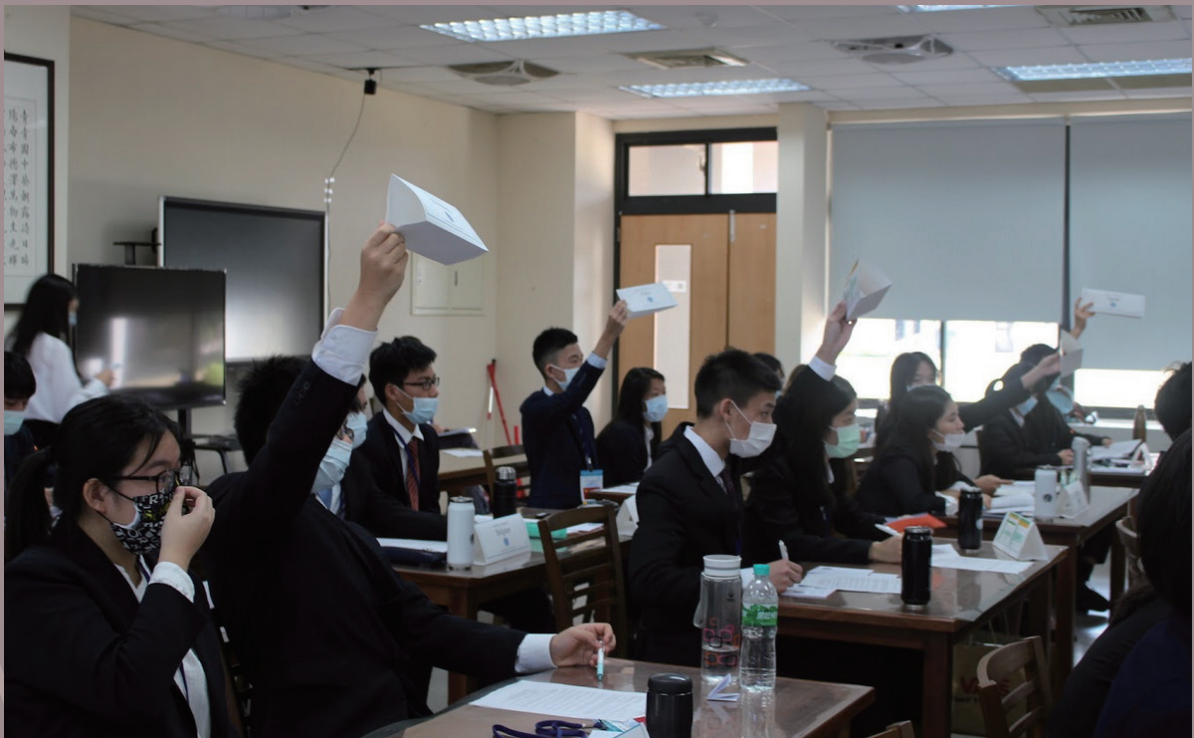
Security Council

Written by Nicholas Petti | Layout by Po-Yu Chen | Edited by Maxine Tseng and Patricia Hung



**DEP. PRESIDENT:
TING TSAI
(HCAS)**

Ting Tsai, the Co-chair of the Security Council, is a junior at Hsinchu County American School. Her motivation to participate in MUN is that she wants to learn about different aspects of the world, understand global affairs, and dive deeper into different fields. Furthermore, this will be her first time chairing an advanced committee and she wishes to bring everyone the best experience. She joined HSINMUN upon knowing that it helps with public speaking and debating skills. Although, as a result of the recent outbreaks, a lot of these debating events were put on hold, along with her summer outdoor plans, Tsai is still as passionate and curious as ever to continue the MUN experience. These debating procedures will most likely help with extra credit for universities alongside another project of hers which was releasing an album Lockdown also converted all schools to online, this hindered access to Ting's favourite programs: theatre and performance ones. On the upside, she has more time allocated towards mastering the arts of debate due to sheer boredom and maybe some other passion projects. Aside from MUN, Tsai deeply enjoys drawing and learning social studies.



Dear Reader

Welcome to HSINMUN XVII! As the press team, we hope to promote participants' understanding of this year's conference: its committees, issues, and relevant current events. Since the end of the previous school year, the press team has been working diligently to present this pre-conference issue. We will also be publishing two other issues for this conference: the conference and post-conference issue. This issue serves to introduce the inner-workings of HSINMUN: the secretariats, working team, and student officers. The most prominent article we will feature is an introduction to this year's keynote speaker, Dr. Allen Lien. These pages are valuable insights the press team has given about this year's theme: Multicausality. We hope that everyone will be able to read it in order to gain and enhance understanding of this year's theme and topics.

This year marks HSINMUN's first online conference. Although it will be held through Cisco WebEx, it retains the same quality as previous HSINMUN conferences, so we hope that everyone will be able to accommodate the changes and technical difficulties. Despite all that we've gone through in the past few months, we hope that the conference will be a place for us to learn together and engage in engrossing debates. With only a few days together as a conference, we, as the press team, will be capturing your experiences into words and photos in three separate press issues. The aim of these press issues is to serve as memorandums for this special time. As our reporters pop into your breakout rooms from time to time to conduct interviews, don't hesitate to greet and thank them for their creativity and hard work. Of course, we shouldn't forget the layout editors, who will be diligently working behind the scenes to format the content in an aesthetic manner. Despite the Covid situation, we hope that everyone will take advantage of the conference as an opportunity for us to foster more in-depth understanding of global issues, teamwork, and engage in engrossing debates. With all of the participants of HSINMUN XVII, we trust that this conference will be a fruitful and unforgettable experience.

Sincerely,

Maxine Tseng, Patricia Hung, Cheney Lee
Editor-in-Chief and Co-Editors-in-Chief

MASTHEAD

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