Global Issues Summit: Delegate Handbook
First Year Seminar: Global Issues and Engagement
(Dr. Kille – Fall 2018)

Introduction and Protocol

General Introduction
The Global Issues Summit is designed to teach participants about the dynamics of global issues, international politics, and negotiations. Students act as representatives, “delegates,” of those countries participating in the summit. Student representatives meet in formal and informal debates to design solutions for current global issues. The Global Issues Summit applies some of the same rules of conference diplomacy practiced in the United Nations, although in a more simplified format to allow ease of learning and use.

Summit Procedures
The Global Issues Summit will focus on the global issue of: confronting climate change. Sessions will be divided between formal debate and informal caucus time. During formal debate, the rules of procedure are in force. Delegates will make speeches, respond to questions, and introduce and debate resolutions to these problems. When a caucus is called during sessions, delegates meet informally with each other to discuss resolutions and the issues at hand.

To facilitate caucus, it is suggested that delegates meet in various blocs. Blocs are groups of countries in roughly the same geographic area or with similar interests. Blocs are by no means rigid or required. Sometimes delegates find that their interests do not fit in with those of any bloc and form new groupings. Blocs are really a vehicle to facilitate discussion and to develop collective responses to problems.

The primary mechanism for international solutions in the Global Issues Summit is a resolution (see Appendix A for a sample resolution). For the resolution to be an effective solution, an oversized majority of member states (two-thirds) must agree on and vote for the proposed solution. Thus, the success of the Global Issues Summit is directly contingent on sovereign state behavior and the development of standards of conference diplomacy.

The process of developing a resolution requires written work. The mechanism for preparing to debate the topic and devise a resolution is the working paper (see working paper assignment). Working papers are summary documents that outline a country’s position on the problem and make proposals on what should be done to address that problem. All delegates are required to complete working papers in advance of the summit sessions and turn them in at the class before the summit begins. Thus, it is suggested that you make at least two copies of your paper - one to turn in and one to keep for reference during the sessions. Copies of all papers will be distributed for review before the summit begins so that delegates enter the summit with ideas on which countries have similar or different positions and proposals.

The best resolutions are the result of collaboration among delegates. This involves conversion of working papers or related ideas into a resolution by adding appropriate wording. It is expected that delegates may develop and consider several, different resolution drafts on a topic at the same time. Note that informal contact outside of the formal sessions (i.e. class time) is not only allowed, but encouraged.

For formal consideration, resolutions require **three sponsors**. Once a delegate believes that s/he has enough international support, they must submit the draft resolution to the Chairperson. The Chairperson will review and then distribute the resolution for formal consideration at the summit meeting. A great deal of negotiation will be required to build consensus to pass a resolution. Throughout the summit, delegates should constantly ask themselves how many compromises their country would really make to get a resolution passed.

**Summit Protocol**

There are several important Rules of Protocol for the Global Issues Summit:

1. Delegates gain the attention of the Chairperson either by sending a note or by raising their placards. Delegates are addressed as, for example, the “Delegate of Sweden,” or simply by country name.

2. Participants in the Global Issues Summit should be careful to show respect for the country they are representing, and are also expected to show respect for the rules of the summit, the staff, and the traditions of institutions like the United Nations. “Respect” includes careful attention during formal debate, respect for all speakers in formal debate, as well as good behavior during informal debate and caucus. Delegates may be called to order by the Chairperson or his/her staff when their behavior shows a lack of respect for others.

3. After a speaker has completed his/her speech in the general debate, the Chairperson will ask the delegate to take a question or will acknowledge the next speaker from the speaker’s list to take the floor.
Rules of Procedure for the Global Issues Summit

Section 1: Agenda

The provisional agenda (confronting climate change) for the Global Issues Summit sessions is set by the Chairperson and communicated to delegates before the opening of the summit.

Section 2: The Chairperson

The Chairperson exercises the powers conferred upon him/her by these rules. In addition, the Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each session, direct the discussion, ensure the observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, and announce decisions. The Chairperson may, in the course of discussion of an item, propose to the summit the limitation of the time allotment for speakers, or the closure of debate on the item under discussion.

Section 3: Speakers’ List

No representative may address the summit without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The summit shall have at all times an open speakers’ list for the topic area being discussed. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairperson may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Section 4: Limiting Speaking Time

A motion may be made to limit or extend the time to be allowed to each speaker. One delegate may speak in favor and one may speak against a proposed limit. When the debate is limited and a delegate exceeds the allotted time, the Chairperson shall call that delegate to order.

Section 5: Speaking During Formal Debate

After a delegate has finished speaking and, if there is a limit on speaking time, the speaker has time remaining, the Chairperson will request whether the speaker wishes to answer questions from the assembly or yield the floor to another delegate. Any delegate with a question shall indicate this by raising his/her placard. Questioners shall be chosen by the speaker, and the speaker can continue to take questions, unless his/her time elapses, and then the Chairperson will designate that the next speaker from the speakers’ list will take the floor.

Section 6: Point of Information

A point of information may be used at any time to make inquiries on rules of procedure; the past, present and future state of business; or any other relevant question pertaining to the summit procedure or other matters. The point may interrupt a speaker. If the Chairperson feels that points of information are being used to disrupt or delay the orderly conduct of the meeting, s/he may rule that they must be submitted in writing for a specific period of time.

Section 7: Right of Reply

The Chairperson may, at his/her discretion, accord the Right of Reply to any delegate if a speech delivered by another representative makes this appropriate and may limit the time accorded for reply. It shall be the policy of the Chairperson not to accord the Right of Reply unless a preceding speech has contained extraordinary comment bearing directly on the national or personal dignity of the delegate offended. Malicious or slanderous attacks of a personal nature, or against any particular country, are prohibited.
Section 8: Caucusing
At any time a delegate may make a motion to caucus, which shall immediately be put to a vote unless ruled out of order by the Chairperson. The delegate making the motion to caucus must specify a time limit for the caucus and briefly explain its purpose. The time limit is subject to the Chairperson’s approval. During a caucusing period, the formal rules of procedure are suspended and delegates may discuss the issues on the table and draft resolutions informally. Delegates may not leave the committee room or such areas as are designated for the caucus.

Section 9: Form of Resolutions
A. Proposed resolutions shall be placed before the Chairperson in writing. A resolution may be introduced on the floor when it has the approval of the Chairperson and has been signed by three member states at the summit.

B. The resolution should be a formal statement of member-state intentions – a plan to resolve key issues through cooperative actions. It should include a brief introduction that refers to precedent or recognizes past developments. It should also include ‘active clauses’ that specifically describe the purpose and program to be carried out if the resolution passes.

C. No resolution may be introduced to the summit until it has the approval of the Chairperson and has been copied and distributed to the delegates. When this has occurred, one of the sponsors of the resolution will be directed to rise to introduce the resolution when the floor is open. The resolution, and all other issues related to that topic, are then open for debate.

Section 10: Closure of Debate/Vote on Resolutions
A representative may at any time make a motion to close debate on any resolution and put it to an immediate vote by raising their placard. If a majority of the member states votes in favor of closure, the Chairperson shall declare debate closed and will then initiate an immediate vote on the primary proposal at hand. An affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting shall be necessary for passage of any resolution. Once passed, a resolution becomes a binding contract and a standard of international law. If a resolution does not receive enough support, it is removed from consideration at the summit.

Section 11: Voting
A. Each member of the Global Issues Summit shall have one vote. Votes on procedural motions are to be taken by placard only and require a simple majority (51%). Permissible votes on procedural motions (limit speaking time, caucusing, & closing debate) are “yes” or “no” only.

B. Votes on substantive resolutions require a roll call vote and a two-thirds (67%) majority of those voting “yes” or “no” for passage. In a roll call vote, the Chairperson shall read the name of each member-state. The member shall call out “yes”, “no”, “abstain”, or “pass”. After going through the list of members once, the Chairperson shall ask again for the votes of members who passed the first time. If a member passes twice, his/her vote shall be recorded as “abstain”. After all votes have been taken, the Chairperson tallies the vote and then announces the outcome of the vote.
Appendix A: Sample Resolution

Title: Global Zero Treaty for Weapons of Mass Destruction
Sponsors: Canada, Paraguay, Malaysia, South Africa, Turkey

Recalling past efforts to control the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Biological Weapons Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty;

Recognizing Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that calls on nuclear weapons states to “pursue complete nuclear disarmament.”

Realizing the evidence that limits on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction are being violated and the need for a cooperative venture to be undertaken by all countries of the world. We hereby:

1) Recommend that states sign a new Global Zero Treaty for weapons of mass destruction. The Global Zero Treaty would include the following clauses:

   a) Each signatory pledges to eliminate its stockpiles of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons by 2025;
   b) Each non-possession state agrees not to acquire weapons of mass destruction;
   c) All states agree to turn over all technology and blueprints for these systems to the international authority named below.

2) Urge the establishment of an International Weapons of Mass Destruction Monitoring Agency (IWMDA), with the following aims:

   a) The IWMDA will be established with the express purpose of monitoring and inspecting weapons facilities in states that sign onto this treaty so as to ensure compliance.
   b) IWMDA will oversee the collection of WMD technology and blueprints, and will propose options to signatories for the conversion of these resources into peaceful energy programs.

3) Call for signatories to the Global Zero Treaty to provide funds for the operation of the IWMDA by imposing a special tax on all arms transactions across state borders. Member states would ensure that arms dealers pay 10% of the value of their international sales into the IWMDA account at the World Bank.