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## **Model UN Team Sweeps Tournament Honors**

**CEDARVILLE, OHIO** – In an election year where debates and policy discussions are at the forefront of the news, Cedarville University's model United Nations team came away with a slew of awards at the Dayton Model United Nations Conference. The event, held February 5-6 at Sinclair Community College, included 11 teams from universities in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Cedarville's team of diplomats won all eight of the competition's top awards, while 10 of the team's 13 members earned special recognition. The team set records in both individual and team awards while competing against delegations from Bowling Green State University--Firelands, Earlham College, Eastern Michigan University, Marietta College, Ohio Northern University, Sinclair Community College, University of Cincinnati, University of Dayton, University of Pittsburgh--Johnstown and Wright State University.

Students who earned individual recognition included seniors Austin Becton (Dayton, Ohio), Tyler Hanley (Pekin, Illinois), Caleb Little (Wheatfield, Indiana), Elise Parsons (Cedarville, Ohio), Matt Pinckard (Orland Park, Illinois), Christian Townsend (Avon, Indiana), Spencer Woody (Byron, Georgia) and Josh Wright (Interlochen, Michigan) and juniors Esther Holm (Menomonie, Wisconsin) and Jana Minich (Lafayette, Indiana).

"All 13 delegates, whether they won personal awards or not, were on point, active and disciplined for over 18 hours of simulated international negotiation," said Glen Duerr, Ph.D., assistant professor of international studies. "I am extremely proud of the whole team for their diligence, professionalism and endurance throughout the conference. They were fantastic representatives of Cedarville University and its student body."

The Model U.N. competition is a real-life way for students to learn about international affairs. Students debate and create solutions through negotiating with representatives from other schools.

Students are given a wide range of issues and have several months to prepare their arguments before presenting them during competition. The recent competition in Dayton included two General Assemblies, one on education, science and culture (UNESCO) and another on peaceful uses of outer space (COPUOS).

The competition also included the meeting of two Security Councils, with topics ranging from global terrorism to the escalating tensions in the Middle East and the wave of displaced immigrants moving across Europe.

In each of the four competition rooms, Cedarville students earned the top two awards, while adding a third-place honor in the UNESCO assembly and a fourth-place honor in the COPUOS room.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,711 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit [www.cedarville.edu](http://www.cedarville.edu).