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Cedarville Model U.N. Team Achieves Record Success
National Conference Provides Learning Platform

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Cedarville University’s Model United Nations team earned the second place team award of “Distinguished Delegation” at the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference last week in New York City. Additionally eight of 14 members from Cedarville’s team received individual recognition, a new school record. The team competed against 2,500 students from over 200 universities on five continents.

While Cedarville is one of the smaller schools that attended the event, the team showed it could compete with the best in world. “Cedarville is as good as anybody there,” said Frank Jenista, Ph.D. Jenista is a professor of international studies at Cedarville and served as an American diplomat for 25 years.

The final rankings are based on how accurately individuals and teams are judged to represent their country’s interests. Throughout the four-day conference, NMUN staffers observe and score teams on both their performances and also the final outcomes and resolutions passed by the various committees. Delegates must be in character all throughout the day, from the moment roll is called at the beginning of the day all the way to the end of their final committee meeting.

“Throughout the whole conference you have to behave in all ways as a delegate from that country would concerning your country’s national interests,” Jenista said. “You’re trying to negotiate agreements that would advance your country’s interests and trying to prevent agreements and resolutions that would harm your country.”
In order to assume this identity, students must do extensive preparation and research on topics ranging from economic and social developments to international relations to the environment, human rights and many others.

“Model U.N. is a real life skill,” Jenista said. “Your whole life you’re negotiating with people: your roommate, significant others, members of your family, any organization you’re a part of. The diplomatic skill is huge.”

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University attracts 3,400 undergraduate, graduate and online students to more than 100 areas of study. Inspiring greatness for over 125 years, Cedarville is a Christ-centered learning community recognized nationally for rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. Visit the University online at www.cedarville.edu.