Fall Conference: Students Negotiate Six-Party Talks

"We live in an interconnected world so we should care about issues, even if they do not appear to impact our lives."

"I want to learn more about what is happening around the world... it's very interesting."

Over 210 high school students from 25 schools on three islands sharpened their negotiating skills as they participated in a Six-Party Talks simulation at PAAC's Fall Conference on November 14, 2009. After Korea expert Dr. Steven Kim of the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) put the simulation in context for the participants and provided tips for role-playing in true character, students dove into the activity. Three challenges stood between them and a comprehensive agreement that would form the basis for normalized relations between all six countries.

After an intense session, more than half of the 19 simulation groups came to an agreement. Students were eager to compare outcomes, and realized some delegates were more successful than others at representing their country's interests. Tracey Wiltsen, Executive Director of the Mediation Center of the Pacific, debriefed the experience with the students, discussing tools and techniques for successful negotiations. Beyond an understanding of international issues, participants gained insight into the way they handle themselves in conflict.

Mahalo to our event sponsors: Chevron, USA, The Freeman Foundation, Friends of Hawai'i Charities, Hawai'i State Department of Education, McNerney Foundation, Na Lei Aloha Foundation, Radford Learning Center, and the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Department of Educational Foundations.

Punahou and Lahainaluna Vie for 1st Place at Chevron Academic World Quest

The tension was thick as teams from Lahainaluna High School and Punahou School competed in the competition tie breaker round. At stake was the opportunity to represent Hawai'i in the National World Quest Competition in Washington, DC, in April 2010. When the tie breaker round resulted in another tie, the teams went to a sudden death round, with Punahou emerging victorious.

(L-R) Emcee Leslie Tsou, Jason Leftfeld (Chevron), winning team members: Eric Liau, Yongki "Kevin" Chung, Ming Tangayaw-Lau, and Tyler Bayley, PAAC member Ray Tadaki, and Hunter McEwan (UH Dept. of Educational Foundations). Four sites on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island were linked via teleconference to allow 65 teams from 26 schools on 6 islands to compete simultaneously. Students answered questions in six rounds, covering topics such as current events, women in leadership, pandemics, and the Six-Party Talks. The emcee, East-West Center Diplomat-in-Residence Leslie Tsou, commended the students' participation and stressed the importance of international awareness. A team from Punahou finished in 3rd place, followed by a team from UH Lab School.

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GLOBAL ACTION PROJECT:  
After-School Class Serve Those With Special Needs

PAAC After-School Classes at Roosevelt, Kaimuki, and Radford High Schools participated in the 2009 Holiday Classic for the Special Olympics Hawai‘i. The event took place at Hickam Air force Base at Hangar 34/35. The hangers were decorated and transformed into Olympic Town; a place where athletes can participate in arts & crafts, and games before the opening ceremonies. The students helped with set up of Olympic Town and worked at the craft table, game station, food service, and led the processions during the opening ceremonies. Students also learned about the history of the Special Olympics, rules and regulations as it pertains to working with the participants, and the Special Olympics Hawai‘i motto: “Be a fan of dignity. Be a fan of acceptance. Be a fan of the human race. Be a fan of Special Olympics Hawai‘i. Volunteer.” Every semester, students organize a Global Action Project that focuses on a global issue at the local level. They chose to work with persons with special needs. The students dedicated this Global Action Project to the memory of Lieutenant Nainoa Hoe (1978-2005), who served in Iraq.

WorldQuest (Continued)

Students shared:

“This competition fills an important niche in high school academic competitions. There aren’t many other geography/international issues competitions around.”

“WorldQuest is awesome. I think it’s important for students to be aware of international issues.”

Mahalo to event title sponsor, Chevron, USA. Other event sponsors include the Hawai‘i Department of Education, Department of Educational Foundations at UH Mānoa, Freeman Foundation, Friends of Hawai‘i Charities, McNerney Foundation, Na Lei Aloha Foundation, and the Radford Learning Center. Prize sponsors included Big City Diner, Consolidated Theaters, Glow Putt Mini Golf, and Zippy’s Restaurants.

Students Speak Up!

PAAC surveyed high school students at the Fall Conference and WorldQuest Competition about their interests in global studies. Approximately 250 students completed the evaluation forms. Here’s what they have to say:

The top three issues that would most inspire students’ activism are:
- Hunger, Poverty, & Global Health
- Human Rights
- Environmental Destruction

The majority of students get most of their world news from the Internet/web resources, and believe it is the most informative form of media.

The top six fields of study that students are interested in are Medicine, Biology, Law, International Relations, Peace Studies, and Business.

Reflections from 2009 IVLP Visitors

“Assemblyman Mizuki and Mili Miyakuni of Japan enjoy a potluck prepared by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

“I became to know much about the culture and diversity of the USA. I felt the power of various cultures and volunteers!” - Seunghuee Lee, South Korea

“Now, I’m very interested in America and its people. They are so hospitable. Thank you for taking care of me.” - Shiro Mizuki, Japan

“Before, my image of the US was from the TV. This program changed that for me. Thank you!” - Ling Lin, Taiwan

“My new great impression is that people in the US are very friendly. I wish I could have had more time to see the nature of Hawai‘i but I will probably come back for official purposes in the future.” - Michio Ichikawa, Japan

Col. Kajima of the Japan Ministry of Defense and Hiapo Cashman from the Center for Hawaiian Studies at UH-Mānoa exchange gifts of friendship.

“Hawai‘i is close to Indonesian culture and ideals. I have gained more knowledge of that. Thanks.” - Himen Syofyanto, Indonesia

“My impression of the US has changed. Especially during the meetings with ordinary people, I can feel their warm welcome.”
- Wootak Lee, South Korea
Speaker Forums

Malaysian scholar, activist, and journalist Zainah Anwar (see above) spoke to university students and community members about women’s rights in Islam. She noted the progress being made worldwide through her organization, *Sisters in Islam*’s advocacy.

Hong Kong Commissioner for Economic and Trade Affairs, Donald Tong, visited Hawai‘i in October and updated participants about opportunities in Hong Kong, and measures the city is taking to overcome current economic challenges.

Fred Lau (left), Director of the Center for Chinese Studies at UH-Manoa, gave a talk about the diversity of Xinjiang music in China, and various instruments of the Silk Road.

PAAC hosted the third annual ChinaTown Hall, sponsored by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. The forum featured Robert Kapp, President of Robert A. Kapp & Associates, on current issues in U.S.-China economic and foreign relations. His talk was followed by a live webcast with Assistant Secretary of State, Kurt Campbell.

Celebrating Hawai‘i International Education Week (HIEW)

2nd Annual University WorldQuest Competition

Over 20 teams from Brigham Young University, Hawai‘i Pacific University, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, and Windward Community College competed in six rounds of categories ranging from Water and Alternative Fuels to Globalization and Geography of Asia and the Pacific. A team from UH-Manoa Honors program emerged as the first place winner; followed by a multi-school team consisting of students from HPU and UH-Manoa; and a team from Windward Community College in third. Event co-sponsors included Hawai‘i Pacific University, UH-Manoa Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), UH-Manoa Office of International and Exchange Programs, and Atherton Foundation. Each member of the teams received prizes donated by Aveda, Honolulu Zoo Society, Kim Chie II Restaurant, Kumu Kahua Theatre, Paul Brown Hawai‘i, PF Chang, Rosemary Casey, Spices, Sweet Dreams Skincare, TD Food Group, Inc., and the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa bookstore. Special thanks to Joel Weaver, Director of HELP, for emceeing the event, judges, volunteers, and all participants for making the event a success!

Kapiolani Community College (KCC) HIEW Festival

PAAC hosted performances and speakers for KCC’s HIEW Festival. Dr. Karim Khan gave students an overview of the Af-Pak conflict, Dean Ed Schulz spoke about the North Korean crisis, and Dr. Juan DeValbiss (bottom left) taught students about the Spanish guitar. Capoeira Hawaii (bottom right) and Au Shaolin Arts (center) also demonstrated martial arts from Brazil and China.
Membership

NEW
Teacher
Karen Chun

Individual
Natasha Chappell
Charissa Flores

Family
Kathy & Homer Carter

RENEWALS

Individual
Virginia Baz
Mark Harner
Michael Herb
Luke Kirch
Masaneb Kudo
Patricia Lee
Stewart Ring
Bill Sharp
Elizabeth Stanton-Barrera

Family
Brenda & Larry Foster
Donald Hasenyager
Yukiko & Howard Okada
Virginia & Edward O'Shaunessy

Contributing
Richard Baker
Steven Baker & Nan Hwang
Jason Chu
Joanne & Howard Hamamoto
Milton Hiura
Joyce Leung
Li & John Lundin

Ray & Shirley Miyamoto
Rodney Santos
Ray Tadaki
Carl Zimmerman

Associate
Forrest & Janice Bennett
Jill & Todd Canfield
Judy Dawson
Diane Peters-Nguyen
Stephanie McCandless
Reford

Benefactor
Warren Luke
Shauna Robbins
Charles Salmon
Thanh Lo Sananikone

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Annual Dinner
Join us as we honor the East-West Center with the Paul S. Bachman Award. Dr. Charles Morrison, President of the East-West Center will also make remarks about the 2011 APEC Summit in Hawai‘i.

February 4, 2010 at 5:30pm
The Kahala Hotel & Resort
For more info, call 944-7783.

Interns

"I feel PAAC has provided an engaging and dynamic learning site that works in conjunction with my education." - Stacy Nojima

We would like to thank fall interns: Esther Cho, Zach Feinberg, Lisa Kochinski, Stacy Nojima, Caylee Takafuji, Christine Wagner, and Dua Yang for their assistance in many of our programs. PAAC offers internship opportunities for anyone interested in gaining varied work experience and learning more about international affairs. For more information, please call 944-7780.

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