The importance of the club of MUN

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I. Introduction

A. Background of the study

MUN, the abbreviation of Moderated Union Nation, is an activity that contains research, writing, public speaking, problem solving, consensus building, conflict resolution, compromise and cooperation. Before the conference every delegate should finish a position paper. In the position paper you should analyze the information assigned on one page A4 paper. This helps you integrate your position. It is also available for other delegates to review. During the conference, delegates will need to find your allies. Before the conference ends you will learn to cooperate with others of writing a draft resolution. After you finish writing, this is still not an end. You still have to make several speeches to persuade others to vote for your draft resolution. Before your draft resolution becomes a resolution, you sure need to raise lots of amendments. Last, when one of the draft resolutions passes two-thirds majority, the conference ends.

B. Motivation

Joining the Moderated United Nations Club makes me curious about the purpose of setting up this club. After understanding the goal of MUN, I want to introduce my club by sharing my own experience of the conference. I design a questionnaire to make my words more persuasive. I hope that after reading my research, more people will know the strength of MUN, and desire to join a conference.

C. Method

The information in the research mainly comes from my experience of joining a MUN club, reading information on website and also the book named” How to Win Awards in Model United Nations,” I also distribute two different kinds of questionnaires. One is designed for the people that aren’t MUN club members, and the other is designed for the MUN club members. I asked 57 people to do the questionnaire for me, 19 people for the MUN club members’ questionnaire and 38 people for the non-member questionnaire.
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D. Research Questions

(1) Why do students set up a club that is considered to UN?
(2) Why do Taiwanese students set up this club?

II. In club classes, members will be introduced the basics of MUN conferences as follows.

A. Members in the MUN

Forming a MUN needs lots of people to participate. This is the roughly introduction of the members. Each group needs one “members of the dais”, several pages, and delegates. Members of the dais include director, the chair, and rapporteur. Director is mainly the one who is most experienced. Director is responsible for technical problems. They often review the file which delegates raise during the conference. The chair is the one that oversees debate and guides delegates through the rules of procedure. Rapporteur is in charge of typing the speaker list on the notebook and making roll call. Page is a person who helps to deliver notes and print the film during the conference. It is a bit like the helper of the members of the dais. Last and also the most important is the delegates. Each delegate represents a country, and learns to cooperate and debate with others. They are the soul of the conference.

B. Progress that MUN follows

Rules for MUN, which derived from Robert’s Rule of Order, is called Rules of Procedures (ROP). Robert’s Rule of Order is like the constitution of MUN. Although the rule may be a little different in each MUN, they are all based on it.

The ROP is divided into formal debate and informal debate. Formal debate starts with a roll call. During the roll call, delegates need to raise their placard high and form and answer “present” or “present and voting” at the same time. When there are more than two topics we need to set the agenda. After both sides of delegates who oppose and support make the speeches, then members will vote which agenda should come first. Then it comes to the speaker list. When the delegate is about to finish the speech, the delegate may yield time to others. There are three categories they may yield time to. They are yield time to another delegate, questions, comments, and the chair respectively.
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There are also two points that help the MUN to proceed. One of them is motion, and the other is point. You need to “move” a motion and “raise” a point. The difference between points and motions include the motion needs to be voted but others don’t. There are some examples for points and motions. Points include point of order, point of inquiry, and point of personal privilege. Also motions include motion to set speaking time, motion to suspend the meeting, motion for moderated caucus, motion for unmoderated caucus, and motion to close debate. When the motion of moderated caucus or unmoderated caucus passes, then members move to informal debate. We will vote for the resolution from all draft resolutions, when the motion of closing debate passes.

C. Document written for the MUN

There is lots of writing going on in the MUN: before the conference, during the conference, and at the end of the conference. Before the conference we need to hand in our position paper. During the conference, we may submit our working paper. The format of the working paper isn’t limited. We can choose to write or draw. Before the conference ends all the delegates will finish a draft resolution together. We may also need to write several amendments to support it.

D. Simulation Bodies

From seeing the word “moderated” in MUN, it is not hard to associate MUN as an activity similar to United Nations. There are some simulation bodies in MUN conferences. The simulation bodies are UN General Assembly Plenary, Six UN General Assembly Committees, Security Council, UN High Commission on Refugees, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), World Health Organization, International Court of Justice, and so on. The Six UN General Assembly Committees and Economic social council (ECOSOC) are the two simulation bodies that are now commonly played in the MUN that is cooperated by high school students. Different bodies have different rules about the number of the delegates, the topic, and sometimes routines.

E. Social Events

When we enter a MUN conference, we need to discuss your position with others. From that moment we talk to strangers, we are socializing with others. That is not the
The importance of the club of MUN only part for social in MUN conferences. Most conferences will hold a social event to comfort delegates who have worked in the conference all day long. It is not only for fun, but a way to improve our social skills and also a moment to increase our allies.

III. Discussion of questionnaire

A. Is the existence of the club necessary?

From the two charts below, we can see that the average number of people in the MUN club which participate in a conference is much higher than people that are not the club member. This fact proves that club helps promote conferences. We can say that the existence of the MUN club is necessary.

We complete chart 1-3 by asking club members questions about MUN conference in forms of a multiple-choice question. They need to pick the wrong fact about MUN conferences from the 3 options. It tests basic knowledge for MUN conference. From chart 1-3 below, we can see that 3 out of 10 people in the club of MUN have the wrong knowledge of MUN conferences. According to this data, setting a club that teach information about MUN conferences is one more time proved importance.
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**B. How club members view MUN conference?**

From the chart below we can see that most of the members view MUN conferences as the source of learning, while few consider it as a hobby. Thankfully no one think it is nonsense. From the chart below, we can see positive attitude of the club members. This attitude is formed by the development of their affection for MUN conferences in club classes.

**C. How to promote the club?**
(The way people heard about MUN)

From the chart 3-1 below, we can see that the spreading information from peer is the main reason why people heard about MUN. We already find out that starting a club for MUN in high school is necessary. Besides, we create more opportunity for others to know MUN club. According to chart 3-1, the best way to promote the club to others is from peer’s spreading of words.
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IV. Conclusion

From the research I find forming a MUN conference needs a lot of efforts, and that MUN clubs are necessary. Through the chart we can see that the club is helpful for promoting MUN conference. We the peer is the best media to promote.

Setting up the club from imitating the way UN can make us a better person in many different ways. For example, it can train our critical thinking, English skills, public speaking, and ways to get along with others. It is essential to raise a MUN conference. Setting up MUN club is the best way to promote the MUN conferences.

V. Reference:

© UMBC-MUN. What is Model United Nations? ,
http://www.umbc-mun.org/documents/what_is_munHD.pdf

百度文庫。模聯流程，http://wenku.baidu.com/view/e707fa6c011ca300a6c3903f.html

VI. Attachment

A. Questionnaire

(1) Questionnaire for MUN club members
1. Have you ever been to a MUN conference?
   (a) Yes    (b) No
2. How do you view MUN conference?
   (a) hobby (b) learning (c) conference
3. Choose the right option below.
   (a) MUN conference is able to train your stage manner.
   (b) The only language in every conference is English.
   (c) There must be a social event in every conference.
4. Have you applied for a MUN conference recently?
   (a) Yes    (b) No

(2) Questionnaire for not MUN club members
1. Whether you heard about MUN?
   (a) Yes    (b) No
2. Have you ever participated in a MUN conference?
   (a) Yes    (b) No
3. After reading the introduction of MUN below, are you willing to participate in a MUN conference?
   Introduction
   Model UN is an academic nature of the activity, by the United Nations Conference to follow the streamlined regulatory hold analog meetings allow participants to understand the process of multilateral diplomacy, culture ability to analyze issues of citizens, students around the world to promote exchanges, enhance speech and debate ability, improve the organization, planning, management, research and writing, conflict resolution, the ability to seek common ground, training critical thinking, teamwork and leadership skills, and understanding of different cultures and expand their international horizons and understanding of national history or reality on the position and situation. (Wikipedia)
   (a) Yes    (b) No
4. How do you know a MUN club?
   (a) peer (b) family (c) teacher (d) document ex. newspaper