



The Japan University English Model United Nations (JUEMUN) 2017 is to start at Kobe City University of Foreign Studies (KCUFS) on Friday, June 23. During the last class of Model United Nations preparation course before the conference a week before, students from KCUFS and Kobe Consortium who will attend the conference as delegates checked the whole procedure of the conference.

They discussed in groups, assigned to each of the three meetings in the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) that they are simulating, respectively. The agenda of each meeting is: Meeting 1) Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, Meeting 2) Economic Empowerment, Meeting 3) Peace and Security.

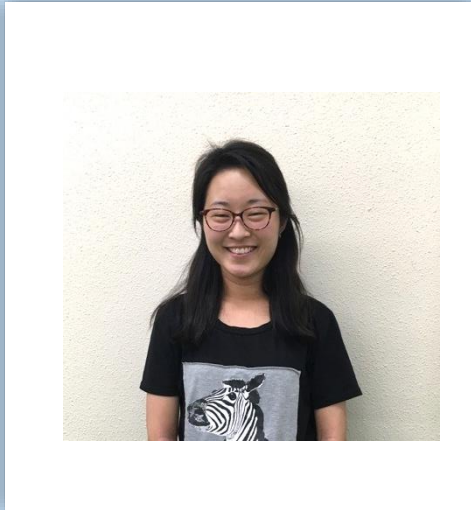
In addition, they practiced making a speech that is the policy of the country they represent. In JUEMUN, each delegate must complete his or her speech within the time limit of one minute.

Following the Opening Ceremony on Friday, JUEMUN Forum will be held, in which three panelists will speak on the theme of JUEMUN 2017: “Women’s Empowerment and the Links to Sustainable Development.” They are: Michiko Kuroda, a visiting professor at Mercy College in NY who is also an UN Executive Coach and UNDP Peacebuilding Adviser; Mihoko Kumamoto, director of UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office; and Aya Yamaguchi, a Senior Advisor on Gender & Development, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Laura-Anca Parera, a Research Fellow at Tsukuba University, will be moderating the discussion.

After a lunch break, the first session of the conference will be held. There will be three sessions on the second day, and two sessions before the closing ceremony will take place on June 25.



THE SECRETARY GENERAL



Haruna Mori

A Challenge as the top

“I want to try and challenge myself to see how much I can do”, said Haruna Mori, the Secretary General for the JUEMUN 2017. She is also at the top of student executive committee organizing each section and stands in between teachers and the students. Mori has taken part in meetings that is held every week, talking about the state of progress and sharing information if there are any problems.

It is her first time to take the position of the secretary general. She wanted to take on a challenge and see how much she can do. Although she finds the job really hard, she thinks it is worth doing when she realizes that she has changed and learned a lot of new things. “How much you prepare is directly connected to how much good results you can get,” she said.

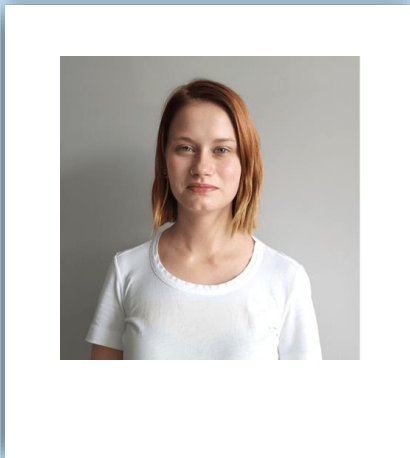
Mori participated in the NMUN Czech Republic in 2015 and the JUEMUN 2016 in Kyoto as a delegate. When she participated as a delegate for the first time, she did not

know how to prepare though delegates were given basic background information. At that time, she felt that she did not prepare enough and found that preparation was very important to get good results. “How deep you do the research and how much you prepare directly links to your success,” Mori said.

In addition, it is interesting how different things each participant can gain. “Each person is at different levels, and therefore what they gain would be also different,” Mori said.

Through the entire process of the conference, participants will be able to learn more about themselves. “How much you speak English is not very important,” Mori said. Having been a delegate and the secretary general, she thinks that the knowledge you have, the ability to negotiate, the communication skills and utilization of human resources are very essential to the JUEMUN.

THE CHAIRS



Anna Deekeling

First time as a chair

“It’s interesting to see how the students change and how they develop during time,” said Anna Deekeling, an exchange student from the Modern East Asia Department at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany. She is taking part in the JUEMUN 2017 as a chairperson supporting the delegates. She took part in the National Model United Nations (NMUN) last year as a delegate representing Japan, but it is her first time to participate in the JUEMUN.

She said that it is enjoyable when you can see how the students and also herself starting to understand how they work. She is a mentor as well, helping the students to prepare for the conference and having the students write their position papers. “Though you may not feel that you are improving, I can see a great difference between the first work delegates have written and what they have done since then,” Deekling said. She said that it is great to see how much they have improved in the last two months.

Deekling found it difficult to explain the rules and the procedures of the JUEMUN. She has experienced the NMUN, and that she understands how it works. It is hard to understand fully unless you actually experience this. JUEMUN also has stricter rules than

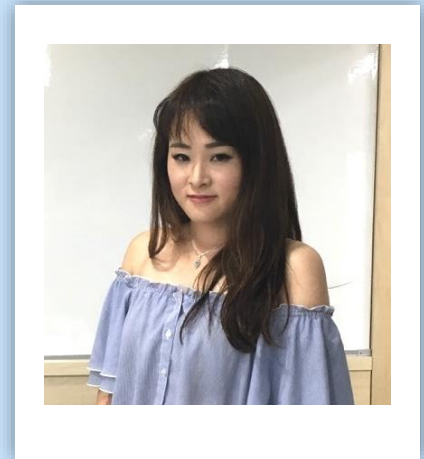
NMUN, which makes it more complicating, but also makes it easier for each delegate to take part in the conference. For example, delegates are assigned to their committees in advance in the JUEMUN. On the other hand, in the NMUN, delegates have to find and make groups by themselves, which would be challenging for the participants.

Through this program student can gain understandings for international politics, international issues and the negotiation processes. By actually participating in this class and experiencing the delegate representing different countries, they would understand how much work is done behind the institutions like the UN. “I feel like people complain about things without knowing how much effort and work is behind it,” she said.

In addition, she said, “You will gain understandings of yourself.” In the conference, students can find out their own strong points and weak points, such as whether it is easy for you to talk to strangers or to talk about important topics. She thinks that through this conference, there are so many things students can gain and mature as an individual.

Nina Nomura

As a Chair, not Delegate



“The process of reaching a conclusion with other people who have different ideas is really interesting in the conference,” said Nina Nomura who is a third-year student at Kobe University of Foreign Studies. She has participated in the NMUN two times. The first time was in the spring of 2016, when she was a first-year student and the conference was held in New York City. The second time in last November when the conference was held in Kobe, for the first time in Japan.

Both times, Nomura joined the NMUN as a delegate, but in the second time, she was a head delegate of Somalia team and supported other delegates by giving some advice.

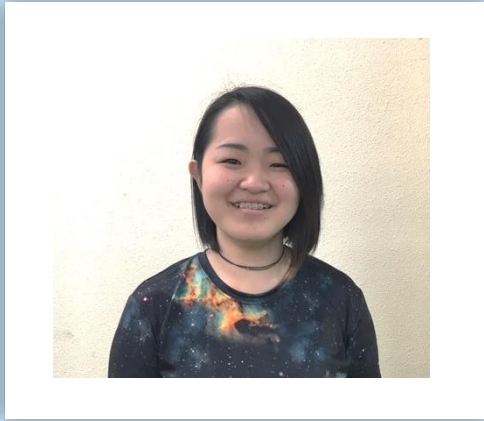
Nomura belongs to Japan Model United Nations Kobe Branch and therefore she also has participated in the Japan Model United Nations (JMUN) several times. She made mistakes and she took them very hard at first because she didn't even know about rules and procedures well. However, “it is a worthwhile job when I come up against a wall,” she said. The difficulties she has experience at model United Nations made her more confident and stronger.

In the JUEMUN 2017, she will participate as a chairperson, not as a delegate. This means that she needs to lead delegates, not to be led. She is a mentor as well, so her work is mainly helping delegates in many ways. For example, checking their position papers out in order to improve them, teaching them how to make a good speech, and even supporting the operation of the meetings.

It is really hard to take the leadership, but she finds it enjoyable to help delegates learn. “I can see many countries in many different points of view through the Model UN,” she said. That is the reason why she is interested in the Model UN.

She has been to Canada to study English for two weeks when she was a high school student and the experience made her strongly want to travel all over the world. Even though she does not actually go abroad, not only she can acquire a professional English skill but also can learn much about international issues deeply throughout the conference. She hopes to teach people about international relationships in the future by using the experience in the JUEMUN.

BEHIND THE SCENES



Akiko Teramoto

Working Behind the Scenes

Akiko Teramoto participates in JUEMUN as one of the members of an Executive Committee. A junior at the KCUFS' Spanish Studies Department, she arranges some ceremonies and events for the JUEMUN and helps delegates in the course of the Model United Nations. "I enjoy this position also, as it allows me to look at the JUEMUN from different angle from before," Teramoto said.

Events she is in charge include the opening ceremony, dinner party in the first day, and the closing ceremony. She had to make seat arrangements and timetable for the ceremonies, as well as holds orientation meetings for volunteers who work during the conference.

In addition, Teramoto helps delegates as a mentor in the course of the Model United Nations that is designed to prepare delegates to the JUEMUN.

Teramoto participated NMUN in Kobe as a delegate in November 2016 and in March this year in New York. She likes to join the conference as a delegate, but this time, she decided to participate in the JUEMUN as a member of executive committee, because Secretary General Haruna Mori, who is also her friend, asked her to take charge of the Executive Committee.

This is the first time that she participates as a non-delegate, so there are some difficulties. For example, she had never made timetable or done seat arrangements. It is also difficult to help delegate prepare position papers. She understands and can explain, but you cannot tell them the answer directly.

Regardless of the hardship, Teramoto enjoys what she is doing. It is because she can learn some different aspects of the conference than what she used to see as delegates.