



SSICsim

SECONDARY SCHOOL INTERACTIVE CRISIS SIMULATION

October 27th, 2015

An Open Letter from the SSICsim 2015 Secretary-General

It is my distinct pleasure to write today on behalf of SSICsim, in recognition of our upcoming 5th anniversary. Today marks an important milestone in SSICsim's history, demonstrating how far we have come since its founding in 2011.

Over the course of the past five conferences, this organization has grown exponentially. Last year, for the first time, we worked to re-design the internal structuring of the organization, gained independence, brought in a Constitution, and gained recognition by the University of Toronto. As a result, our membership grew, and I am proud to say that we now have a record 125 members, consisting of students and alumni across colleges, faculties, disciplines, and year of study.

Despite the many positive changes we have undergone, some things have remained constant. SSICsim continues to remain committed to providing a unique, innovative, and unprecedented conference experience for our delegates. We have stayed true to our mandate of solely operating Model United Nations (MUN) style "crisis committees" on a variety of themes, including those of a historical, fictional and contemporary nature. In five years we have run committees such as the United Nations Security Council, Star Wars, the 1954 Geneva Conference, Facebook, the Apple Board of Directors, Bioshock, and Pandemic. During the Fall 2014 conference we introduced our premier Ad-Hoc Committee of the Secretary-General, and are hosting our first Joint Crisis committee at the upcoming 2015 conference.

Our delegates and conference participants have remained at the heart of everything we do, along with our commitment to providing a positive and inclusive space, as well as exemplary customer service. As a result of this, our conference sold out last and this year, we have seen international interest, and are hosting a record 155 delegates this year. We continue to work to provide the best possible experience for our delegates by giving them the opportunity to: think critically about pressing global issues and our ever changing society; stretch their imaginations to address issues through creative solutions; network with university students; and, develop leadership skills such as public speaking, cooperation, debating and professionalism. Notably, we also remained committed to making SSICsim accessible to novice and experienced delegates alike, which is why we introduced our first edition of a Delegate Training Handbook which provides teachers and delegate's tips and tricks on how to participate and prepare for the conference this year.

Since I first got involved with SSICsim in September 2013, I have come to care very much about this organization, and I firmly believe that it has a bright future ahead of it. As we head towards our 2015 conference, I am excited to see this organization grow and am honored to be part of the journey.

Today, I would like to thank all of the past and present SSICsim members, members of the Model UN community at the University of Toronto, our delegations, and the numerous other individuals who help to make this conference possible each and every year, and wish you a happy 5th anniversary. I can't wait to see where this organization ends up!

Cheers,

Nisha Ariana Malhotra
Secretary-General
Secondary School Interactive Crisis Simulation – 2015 Conference