High school students in Model United Nations at University of Montana

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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MISSOULA---

Registration for the third annual Montana Model United Nations (MMUN) will begin at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 9, in the University of Montana Lodge committee rooms.

Nearly 300 high school students from throughout Montana and Canada will participate in the event at UM in Missoula May 9-11.

A reception for all delegates begins at 3 p.m. in the Yellowstone Room of the UM Lodge. The first session of the General Assembly begins at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Yellowstone Room.

Committee and caucus meetings will be held all day Friday, with a banquet scheduled for 6 p.m. in the Yellowstone Room. Speaker will be Dr. Eddie W. Schodt, diplomat-in-residence at the University.

The second session of the General Assembly is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 11.

Secretary General of the MMUN is Channing Hartelius, a UM senior from Power. Lynn D. Baker, UM senior formerly of Miles City and now of Missoula, is President of the General Assembly.

MMUN sessions are conducted in a manner similar to the procedures of the United Nations body in New York. Before they come to the session, students write resolutions on various questions of international concern, such as the question of racial discrimination, the elimination of foreign military bases and the admission of Red China to the UN. Each school represents at least one member nation, and some of the larger high schools will represent several countries.
Students are assigned to one of several committees, such as the Special Political Committee or the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee. A Security Council and Economic and Social Council also meet. They attend committee meetings and work out resolutions concerning their assigned questions. These are then presented before the General Assembly, where they are debated, amended and either adopted or rejected.

Students learn about the history and functions of the UN, rules of international law, and serious international problems through their MMUN experiences. They gain insight into the operation of the world organization, and often become quite involved in the affairs of the nations they represent.