

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings Delegates,

Welcome to the 50<sup>th</sup> annual Houston Area Model United Nations. My name is Michael Bolanos, and I am excited to be your chair for the Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC). I look forward to meeting you and having meaningful, respectful conversations with all of you!

I am currently a junior at Rice University, double majoring in Integrative Biosciences and Visual Arts on the pre-med track. At Rice, I am secretary of Crochet Club, a Peer Academic Advisor, and social chair for Rice Swim Club. I am also part of the executive board for HAMUN this year. I have attended HAMUN for 4 years, one of them in this very committee—I really enjoyed the topics discussed and the solutions we came up with when I was in DISEC. I have also staffed for HAMUN for 2 years as a vice chair and crisis chair, and I enjoyed facilitating challenging debates. I am eager to see what this committee has to offer when it comes to creating innovative solutions to ever evolving problems.

The objective of this year's DISEC committee is to address issues relating to global peace and security. Our topics this year will look somewhat different than previous years: 1) Strengthening International Measures to Prevent and Respond to Disease Warfare and Bioterrorism, and 2) Cybersecurity and the Role of Space-based Surveillance Systems. Throughout these topics, I hope to address the issues caused by the growing field of technology, especially relating to its looming threat to national security.

I am excited to see what creative insights and solutions you guys will come up with! I know that you all will create brilliant ideas and compromises. Throughout this process, I hope you are able to strengthen your skills in eloquence and gain insight on the destruction that innovation can bring. Remember to always have fun, and again, I can't wait to meet y'all!



**Michael Bolanos**

DISEC

HAMUN 50

bb72@rice.edu

