

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Delegates,

My name is Braydon Alfrey. I'm a 2024 graduate of Clear Springs High School and am attending Alvin Community College to receive my Associate in Applied Science for Digital Communications. I work in live sports production at various venues and colleges in Houston, pursuing my passion for video production. I also shoot videos for the news. I participated in my school's Model UN club for two years in the CSTD and GA Plen committees at HAMUN, where I got to improve my speech and debate skills while educating myself on current events.

The topics chosen this year were chosen to ensure the most broad participation of countries. Having been in CSTD (Commission on Science and Technology for Development) as the delegate of Bosnia-Herzegovina, a smaller country with limited access, need, or want for space travel, I found myself feeling as if I was reaching for any kind of stake in the matter. Topic A was chosen so that even if there are smaller countries like Bosnia-Herzegovina that don't have access to space technologies, they can still take a position on its development. Topic B is a problem that affects not just large countries or countries with access to space technologies but Earth itself—all countries.

Expectations for this committee are pretty basic: be respectful and be civil. But I also really want to see PASSION. Just because you're in a room with a legal pad and suit debating over international issues doesn't mean you can't have fun. I am very aware that a lot of you might be in this for your college resume, so you'll be shooting for those awards, but I don't think you should let academics get in the way of the unique fun that this can bring. In my experience, a conference is at its best when delegates are passionate about the subject; getting excited when a new idea presents itself, meeting new people, and making your voice boom when speaking are only some of the highlights. So in summary for expectations: be respectful, be civil, be passionate.

I hope you all work hard this year to make something great out of it. Though, as with everything, some luck is needed. So I wish you all good luck!

Sincerely,
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