📏 Spring 2013 Model United Nations assessment

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Name of Assessment Project:	Spring 2013 Model United Nations assessment

Name(s) of Person(s) Responsible for Assessment Project:	Role
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Other Units/Departments Involved in Assessment Project:	

Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project

The assessment project is linked to the UCSD Model United National (MUN) program administered by the International House (I-House) but open to and serving all undergraduate students at UCSD. MUN is divided into two functional units:

- Home conferences (for high school MUN programs from throughout Southern California)
- Travel team (which travels to other universities to compete at their MUN events)

Model United Nations (MUN) at the University of California, San Diego is a global affairs interest organization that allows students to learn diplomacy through country role-play and simulation. MUN members simulate the United Nations by assuming the roles of diplomats and attending conferences/competitions. At these conferences, students debate global issues, conduct speeches, draft resolutions, form political alliances, and resolve critical international problems. MUN at UC San Diego presents students with an exceptional opportunity to sharpen their skills as debaters, public speakers, and researchers while expanding their knowledge of international politics.

As a student club, MUN's mission is to develop a globally aware and socially concerned community by expanding students' understanding of contemporary global social, economic and political issues. In supervising the MUN organization, the I-House Program Coordinator provides administrative support and structure by:

- Identifying and assessing learning outcomes for the MUN program
- Creating an assessment tool to measure program goals and learning outcomes
- Working closely with the College Business Office (CBO) to collect information from students, prepare, and complete pre-travel authorization and post-travel reconciliation forms for each event and conference
- Monitoring MUN budget, expenses, and revenue to ensure that the MUN index maintains a positive balance
- Assisting the MUN organization in accessing funds and depositing revenue into the MUN index
- Developing pre-travel and post-travel forms for MUN students to complete for each conference
- Training MUN student leaders how to prepare information for pre-travel authorization and submit receipts for reimbursement in a timely manner

- Communicating with university conference host business office staff to obtain necessary information for registration payment (e.g. tax ID, mailing address, etc.)
- Receiving registration payment from high school delegations on behalf of TritonMUN, UC San Diego's biannual high school MUN conference
- Reserving facilities for General Body Meetings (GBMs), conferences, and special events hosted by the MUN organization
- Meeting with the MUN Graduate Advisors 3-5 times each quarter to receive updates on the organization's activities and progress, address concerns, and discuss goals and achievements
- Purchasing and ordering materials and supplies through the Bookstore, Imprints, and off-campus vendors for TritonMUN
- Encouraging MUN member participation in I-House, campus, and community events such as International Affairs Group, International Education Week, and UNASD events
- Compiling information from attendance sheets to calculate total number of MUN participants

Assessment Project Description

The main purpose of the assessment project was to assess:
- If students benefited from their participation in MUN
- How students benefited from their participation in MUN

The results of this project will be used to:
- Improve and enhance the MUN program
- Demonstrate the benefit of participating in MUN to students' knowledge and awareness of global issues
- Demonstrate the benefit of participating in MUN to students' comfort with public speaking

Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes

As a direct result of participating in Model United Nations it is expected that participants:
- Develop greater awareness of pertinent global social, economic and political issues
- Become more socially concerned
- Develop greater self-confidence
- Develop their public speaking skills

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Relationship to Student Affairs Learning Outcomes:	Think Critically and Solve Problems, Communicate Effectively, Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success, Lead in a Diverse Global Society, Engage in a Healthy Lifestyle, Promote Social Justice and Community Responsibility
Assessment Project Start:	5/23/2013
Assessment Project End:	6/8/2014

Population/Sample

Total active membership and number surveyed (Spring 2013): 30
Responses: 23

Type of Assessment: Satisfaction study, Assessment of culture/climate, Benchmarking

Other Assessment Type(s): Survey

Assessment Methods: Surveys, Participant Narratives/Journaling

Other Assessment Method(s):

Data Collection Tools

Campus Labs was not yet set up for MUN to use when they distributed their survey. This project was conducted using Google Forms. Additional information was provided in narrative form by a graduate student serving as an Adviser for the student organization.

Data Analysis Methods

Data will be uploaded and analyzed using Google Forms.
This is the first time that MUN has been assessed so there is no previous data available for comparison.

Presentation of Findings

Results of this assessment will be used by the International House staff and MUN adviser to enhance and improve the program.
Results will also be shared with the Non-Resident Student Engagement (NRSE) committee.

Progress:

Link Assessment Project in Campus Labs Baseline

Source Name	Project Name
No items to display.	

Summary of Findings

This is the first time the club leadership has assessed club activities and outcomes, and chose a more qualitative approach of assessment. Additionally, this is the first time I-House staff has utilized Campus Labs and Compliance Assist. As a result, the extensive qualitative data is difficult to conveniently match with specific or individual SALOs. I-House staff will work with MUN leadership to design and implement a more appropriate assessment instrument for future assessments.

The responses* to the following qualitative assessment questions directly address multiple Student Affairs Learning Outcomes. Instead of repeating the same response under multiple SALOs, the responses are listed below and the list of SALOs they correspond to are listed subsequently.

*These are not all the responses but only a representative sample. The total list of responses is much too long and unnecessarily repetitive.

Assessment question:
What skills do you feel you have gained from being a part of this club?
- "I have learned public speaking and great interpersonal skills that I find will be invaluable

throughout my life"
- "Public Speaking, Presentation, Event logistics, Organization of ideas"
- "Effective Communication, public speaking, organization, and interpersonal skills"
- "I have increased my ability in public speaking as well as presentation"
- "Organization, communication, interpersonal, leadership"
- "Public Speaking, Connections Building, Debating, Writing, Interpersonal communication"
- "Public speaking, networking, organization, leadership, communication, time management"
- "Presentation skills, confidence"
- "Public Speaking, Organization, Communication"
- "Working together on a large team project, with lots of advance planning"
- "Definitely interpersonal, presentation and organization skills"
- "Negotiation, public speaking, leadership, networking"
- "My speaking skills have improved dramatically and I feel that MUN has provided a niche for me in UCSD through which to develop friendships with people who share my interests"

What do you like most about being a part of MUN?
- "Great people and high levels of discussion about international issues"
- "Learning about the world, meeting passionate young adults"
- "It is very interesting and I learn something new each time, also personal growth"
- "I like how everyone is willing and able to launch into a discussion of international politics at the drop of a hat"
- "UCSD is a science majority school and for those who are interested in other subjects there are not a lot of organizations that deal with that. Therefore, Model UN provides a place for those interested in current events to come together and meet other like-minded people"
- "It takes you out of your comfort zone and challenges you to constantly improve and overcome stage fright"
- "The international backgrounds of the MUN members"
- "It is one of the most professional things I have done on this campus and I love it"
- "We also have joint training conferences with Preuss students which allows for a more dynamic debate, give our chairs more experience and helps us build relations within the area"
- "Travelling, meeting people, gaining communication and leadership skills"

Student Affairs Learning Outcomes addressed by survey responses:
 1. Think Critically and Solve Problems

- 1.1 Interpret information recognizing inconsistencies, biases and unsupported statements
- 1.2 Analyze the components of ideas and arguments, including their assumptions, reasoning
- 1.3 and evidence in order to evaluate the strengths of their assertions and conclusions
- 1.4 Make informed judgments and draw conclusions using intellectually strong criteria and various sources of evidence
- 1.5 Reflect on their own thinking and evaluate their own arguments to confirm or correct their reasoning

2. Communicate Effectively
- 2.1 Plan effectively for oral and written presentations by identifying goals, choosing an effective organization method, and incorporating the interests and expectations of the audience
- 2.2 Present ideas and thoughts confidently and in an engaging, clear and cohesive manner
- 2.3 Collaborate with others to develop ideas in person and in writing
- 2.4 Confidently approach and engage in meaningful conversation with new people in new settings
- 2.5 Use unbiased language that reflects respect for others

3. Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success
- 3.1 Acquire learning skills
- 3.2 Acquire time management skills

4. Lead in a Diverse Global Society

- 4.1 Work effectively in groups which are diverse in their composition in order to formulate creative ideas, solutions or other aims
- 4.2 Work in groups to develop shared goals
- 4.4 Motivate others and achieve a commitment to a shared purpose
- 4.6 Show sensitivity to individual and cultural differences within groups and the ability to tailor one's style of leadership based on this knowledge
- 4.8 Engage with others comfortably in unfamiliar environments either abroad or in the U.S.

6. Promote Social Justice and Community Responsibility
- 6.1 Demonstrate broader understandings of personal identities, including age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, spiritual affiliation, abilities, nationalities, and cultures and their intersectionality
- 6.3 Demonstrate behaviors that reflect awareness of the UC San Diego Principles of Community
- 6.4 Engage in campus, local, state, national, and global decision-making opportunities

The primary skills the respondents to the survey believe they gained from being a part of MUN are:
- public speaking (19 respondents)
- communication and interpersonal skills (15 respondents)
- organization of ideas (12 respondents)
- leadership (4 respondents)

Students participating in home conferences:
- Fall: 120, 7 high schools
- Spring: 250, 15 high schools

Outcomes/awards of the travel team during the past year:
- Verbal commendation for 2 delegates at CHOMUN, University of Chicago's annual MUN collegiate conference
- Delegation award at NMUN New York (last school year)

List of partner organizations:
Prospect, IAG, Blueprint LSAT Prep, IR/PS Asameshikai, UCSD JSA/NSU
The students participating in MUN do so not only to learn about and be with others who are interested in global issues, but these students also develop skills that will be vitally important to them in the professional world after graduation.

Impact of Assessment

The findings on this project will be used for
- discussions with staff and MUN members about enhancing program effectiveness
- having more social and volunteer events to promote the MUN values of justice and equality
- expand the club's membership, presence and prestige on campus
- provide more support to the participants to help them develop their organization and public speaking skills

There is great interest and opportunity to grow the home conferences (which provide the funding for the travel team to compete at other MUN events).
There is also great interest in expanding MUN as an organization and making it more prominent on campus.
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Lessons Learned

There is great interest and opportunity to grow the home conferences (which provide the funding

for the travel team to compete at other MUN events).

The students participating in MUN do so not only to learn about and be with others who are interested in global issues, but these students also develop skills that will be vitally important to them in the professional world after graduation.

There is great interest in expanding MUN as an organization and making it more prominent on campus.

Supplemental Information

MUN is basically financially self-sufficient. The revenue MUN makes from hosting the home conferences are used to help offset the costs for the travel team to compete in MUN events hosted at other campuses.

I-House provides the resources to hire the MUN advisers. In 2012-13, there were 2 graduate advisers: one for the home conference and one for the travel team. In 2013-14 these two positions will be merged into one.

The skills and experiences students gain from their participation in MUN are skills that will benefit them in their professional lives. More students could benefit from participating in MUN - not only by acquiring these skills but also be enhancing their knowledge and awareness of global issues.

Last modified 8/27/2013 at 1:36 PM by Henri Migala
Created 7/5/2013 at 4:54 PM by Henri Migala