

**VOL. 3, ISSUE 1**

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# **The Plain Delegate**



## **CLEIMUN's Coming Back**

**A preview of Cleveland's greatest conference as it  
enters year three**

# **The Plain Delegate**

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# Note From the Director

February 2019 sees the fourth iteration of CLEIMUN – the Cleveland International Model United Nations Conference. From an innovative idea which led to a pilot first conference (CLEIMUN15) of around 50 delegates, the project has blossomed and grown into the exciting, sophisticated and unique event that is the modern CLEIMUN19.

We are expecting more than 200 delegates to join us in downtown Cleveland from February 14th to 16th, 2019 – to enjoy top quality chairing, interesting and challenging topics, an anticipation of good debating and diplomatic skills and a collaborative and hybrid professional structure that makes this conference unique and an experience like no other.

For the first two days, delegates operate singly in committees, representing their respective countries debating pre-prepared draft resolutions that have gone through a process of lobbying and merging and an Approvals Panel before reaching the floor of committees for debate. This is the essence of the “THIMUN-style” or “European-model” of MUN Conferencing. And yet, within that structure, CLEIMUN allows for plenty of collaborative interaction through the use of multiple opportunities for Unmoderated Caucuses to settle issues and promote solutions in a more informal setting – the essence of the “Harvard-style” or “North American-model” of MUN Conferencing. In this way, CLEIMUN allows for a hybrid combination of conferencing styles – providing for a unique experience that enhances the chances of maximum participation for the maximum number of delegates and promotes a practical problem-solving approach that more closely mirrors what actually happens at real-time UN proceedings.

On the last day, all delegates of specific countries work together in their respective Country Delegations in an interactive General Assembly that firstly ties up and reports on the committee debates – and then handles a real-world style international crisis. This aspect of CLEIMUN has proven to be very popular and hugely successful, combining a range of activity and skill-sets both from delegates on the floor and the directing staff behind the scenes.

We are confident that participating delegates will revel in the opportunities on offer and that our team of student leaders and adult support staff will put on a conference experience of quality and variety like no other. We welcome one and all as participants – whether you live just around the corner or have travelled all the way from Chile, England or France (and some will have done), whether you are an experienced MUNer or a novice, whether you are 12 or 18!

Come and join us – or return for another fascinating experience!

**- Mr. Michael Perrins  
Director- CLEIMUN19**

# Interview with Daniela Milan Director, CCWA

## **1. Tell us a little about your background and your career journey.**

I am from Akron, Ohio, so I often use the famous line, “Just A Kid from Akron,” when I travel. I attended John Carroll University, where I received my Bachelors in Economics with a minor in Foreign Affairs. I then attended Penn State University, where I earned my Masters in International Affairs. At Penn State, I specialized my studies in Security and the Middle East. I was also fortunate enough to work for a number of professors as a Research Assistant and Teacher’s Assistant during my time there. After graduating from Penn State, I moved to Columbus to work for a refugee resettlement agency and then moved to Washington, D.C., where I gained experience in a think tank at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. My last job in Washington was at a nonprofit that works in education and cultural exchange with the Middle East and North Africa. In April of 2018, I was hired by CCWA and happily moved back to Ohio!

## **2. What is one thing you’re most excited about for your first CLEIMUN conference?**

I am most excited to see international students and our students from Northeast Ohio getting together and collaborating to solve some of the great challenges of today’s world. I think the mix of international and local students is quite exciting!

# Interview with Daniela Milan

## Director, CCWA

### 3. How has your experience as a director been so far?

My experience with the Cleveland Council on World Affairs has been really wonderful. All of the schools, students, and teachers that I have had the opportunity to interact with have been very positive and I look forward to working with them all over the course of the school year. It's also been a pleasure to have some of our Northeast Ohio schools present at other CCWA events, including when we host distinguished speakers and guests! It's great getting students immersed in all of the Council's work.

### 4. What has been different so far in planning CLEIMUN from other conferences you've attended?

The major difference has been working to find international schools that will travel to be a part of the exciting CLEIMUN experience. It has also been fun to see students take on such strong leadership roles- I can see everyone's passion at every meeting!

### 5. What can we expect from this year's conference?

This year's conference brings exciting topics, strong chairs, and a number of committed professionals that are all working to ensure every delegate has a positive experience at CLEIMUN. We can also expect to see why Cleveland is a city that is becoming a destination for Model United Nations and other student activities!



Courtesy CCWA

# Meet John Swansinger



**John Swansinger** is a senior at St Edward High School and is half of the Secretary-General team at CLEIMUN19.

1. How did you first get involved in Model UN (specifically CLEIMUN)?

**JOHN:** I first got involved with CLEIMUN my Freshmen year in 2015 for the very first CLEIMUN conference.

2. How would you say CLEIMUN is different from other conferences you've been a part of?

**J:** CLEIMUN is different because it is so centered around student leadership. In most other conferences, advisors tend to have a large hand in creating things, and while that is partially true for CLEIMUN, a vast majority of what goes on during the conference will have been organized by students both from the Secretariat and our logistics staff.

# Meet John Swansinger

**3. What's one piece of advice you would offer to a student just starting their Model UN journey?**

**J: Participate!** When you first start MUN you tend to be exceptionally nervous especially at your first conference, and that's perfectly fine, but when you participate you learn all of the ins and outs of MUN from parliamentary procedure to speaking and being interrogated in front of your peers.

**4. What has been your favorite CLEIMUN memory?**

**J: My favorite CLEIMUN memory, and if you went to CLEIMUN last year you may remember, was the CLEIMUN18 GA Crisis. In that crisis, my role was to generate as much chaos as humanly possible! I represented the WHO which had been infiltrated by a secret society hellbent on world domination and I was to push their views in the GA. Suffice it to say the events that happened afterward were absolute chaos.**

**5. What is something that we can expect from this year's conference that will be different from last year's?**

**J: Well all I can say is that this year we have a dedicated and hardworking secretariat that has been working since last spring to make this conference work as well as it possibly can.**



# CLEIMUN19 Through Pictures

Some images of our preparation so far!

