



MONTANA MODEL UN 2012

Faculty Talks in MMUN Committees

Monday, November 19

10:30-11:00 am

General Assembly Second Committee (Economic and Financial) (UC Theatre)

“Responding to High Food Prices”

Kelsey Stamm, MA student in Political Science and Project Manager at the Mansfield Center

Kelsey Stamm is finishing her Master’s degree in UM’s Political Science Department, where she is studying international relations and comparative politics and serving as a teaching and research assistant. Kelsey has worked for the Peace Corps in El Salvador and as a grant writer and outreach coordinator for Ecology Project International. At the Mansfield Center, she manages the American Youth Leadership Program in Cambodia and the Economic Empowerment Project.

11:10-11:40 am

Security Council (UC 326-327)

“Threats to Security Caused by Terrorist Acts”

Professor Owen Sirrs, Arab Studies, Defense Critical Language/Culture Program, Mansfield Center

Professor Owen Sirrs teaches Arab Studies to U.S. military and other U.S. government personnel at UM’s Defense Critical Language and Culture Program. Professor Sirrs earned Master’s degrees at the United States Naval War College and at the National Defense Intelligence College. At the US Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., he served as a Senior Intelligence Officer on the Iran desk and at the Middle East Policy Directorate. Professor Sirrs is an expert on terrorism and the Middle East, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and Egypt.

1:15-1:45 pm

General Assembly Plenary (UC North Ballroom)

“Biodiversity and Development”

Professor Erick Greene, UM Division of Biological Science

Professor Erick Greene teaches and conducts research in UM’s Division of Biological Science. He earned his Ph.D. at Princeton University. Professor Greene’s interests include behavioural ecology, evolutionary biology and conservation biology. He studies birds, spiders, flies, caterpillars and plants. Recently, Professor Greene and his collaborators (including local high school students) have found that ospreys in western Montana have exceedingly high levels of mercury and that in some areas 10-15% of osprey chicks (and some of the adults) die because they become tangled in nylon baling twine.

2:15-2:45 pm

General Assembly Third Committee (Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian; UC 331/332/333)

“International Humanitarian Law”

Jessica McCutcheon, MA student in Political Science

Jessica McCutcheon is finishing her Master’s degree in UM’s Political Science Department. She studies international relations, comparative politics, and political theory and is the MMUN teaching and research assistant. Jessica’s research interests include the use of truth and reconciliation processes to end civil wars. She plans a career as a university professor.

4:00-4:30 pm

General Assembly First Committee (Disarmament and Security, UC South Ballroom)

“Strengthening Security and Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific”

Professor Terry Weidner, UM Department of Political Science

Professor Terry Weidner teaches Asian politics in the UM Department of Political Science. Since earning his Ph.D. in Chinese history from U.C. Davis, Professor Weidner has worked in both academics and the public sector. In 1989, he was a political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, where he was one of two people responsible for reporting on the Chinese pro-democracy movement (Tiananmen). From 2003 to 2012, he was the director of UM’s Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, which promotes understanding of Asia and public affairs.