

Tough as the Real Thing: UN Day 2013 at ODU

Ninety ODU students gathered in the Webb Center on Friday 18 October to mark UN Day 2013 with an all-day political simulation. The event is the largest on-campus activity of the ODU Model UN Society, which represents the university at conferences across the country and hosts major events in Hampton Roads.

This year's event was organized by the Society under the leadership of ODU sophomore Sean McGuffin. UN Day commemorates the creation of the United Nations sixty-eight years ago, out of the ashes of World War Two. In her welcoming remarks, ODU Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Carol Simpson recalled "My parents lived through the bombing of Britain in World War II and like most people of their generation they hoped the United Nations would ensure a terrible war like that one would never happen again."

Officially celebrated on 24 October to mark completion of the UN Charter, *United Nations Day* provides a window on one of the greatest transformations in world politics. Often overlooked in the daily crush of affairs, since 1945 the world has witnessed an historically unprecedented decline in all forms of armed violence, with the UN an essential part.

Awards went to ODU undergraduates Hannah Berk, *Best Delegate* as Chile, Taje Mitchell, *Outstanding Delegate* as South Korea, and Gabriel Miller, *Honorable Mention* as Ukraine. For more information about the ODU Model UN Society, go to <http://al.odu.edu/mun/>

ODU UN Day 2013 Photo Story:



UN Day 2013 participants (Photo: Valerie Sprouse).



ODU Model UN President Kelsie Burkhard opens ODU UN Day 2013. (Photo: David Hollingsworth)



ODU Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Carol Simpson at ODU UN Day 2013 (Photo David Hollingsworth).



Conference staff Michael Chatman Sean McGuffin and Joe Espinoza at ODU UN Day 2013 (Photo: David Hollingsworth).



Julie K. Humphrey raises her placard to speak at ODU UN Day 2013 (Photo: David Hollingsworth).



Nicolas Shinn, raises his placard to speak at ODU UN Day 2013 (Photo: David Hollingsworth).



Pictured left to right: Kelsie Burkhard, Casey Hall, Joshua Stevenson, Steven Bunting and Robert Sokol at ODU UN Day 2013 (Photo: David Hollingsworth).



Kym Ganczak, Graduate Program in International Studies (GPIS), votes at UN Day 2013 (Photo: Brianna Jones).



Thomas Lee and Gabriel Miller at ODU UN Day (Photo: Brianna Jones).



ODU UN Day 2013 Award Winners: Hannah Berk, Best Delegate as Chile, Taje Mitchell, Outstanding Delegate as South Korea, with UN Day Secretary-General Sean McGuffin. Not pictured: Gabriel Miller, Honorable Mention as Ukraine (Photo: Brianna Jones).