



## **PRESS CORPS EDITOR'S LETTER**

### **Lake Erie International Model United Nations**

**Northcoast High School Conference XXXI  
March 30 - April 1, 2010**

Dear Journalists,

First of all, allow me to welcome you to what will be the inaugural conference of the LEIMUN Press Corps. Our goal in creating this committee is to open the conference to students who feel more confident in their writing abilities than in public speaking, while at the same time holding to the ideals of our Model United Nations conference in promoting the respect of and appreciation for other worldviews and cultures.

As a member of the Press Corps, you will be responsible for creating an article from conception to completion. You will hunt for story ideas, conduct interviews, obtain photos, and write your article. All of your articles will make an appearance in the LEIMUN Northcoast News, which will be distributed to all of our conference participants. If you've never written a news article before in your life, have no fear. The first session of the conference will include a brief class on how to write an article and how to use the Associated Press Stylebook.

However, there will be a slight catch in writing your articles: your articles will not be written from your own perspective or point of view. Instead, you will be asked to research the point of view of another country, or even a nation bloc or NGO, and your article must be written from that angle. Your research and understanding of this other viewpoint is critical as it will be a large portion of your article's score. Articles will be graded on the basis of how they portray your viewpoint, their content and support of your thesis or main point, and their accuracy and adherence to APA Style.

As far as pre-conference planning and preparation, I encourage you to read the President's letters for each of the committees of this conference. A general understanding of the topics you might have to write about will give you the background you will need to write a great article. The time you will have to write these articles will be very limited, so preparing yourself ahead of time will give you quite an edge.

I also encourage you to read UN press releases and articles from well-known international news sources, such as the BBC. By reading these you will gain a sense of the style and flow of well-written news articles. If you can, try to find a recent edition of the Associated Press Stylebook. One will be provided at the conference, but the more prepared you are, the more confident you will be.

Best of luck,  
The Editor-in-Chief