

## Bluefield State College Model UN Participates in 2013 American Model United Nations International Conference in Chicago, Illinois

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The Bluefield State College Model United Nations team participated in the 2013 American Model United Nations International Conference in Chicago, Illinois from November 23-26. This year, the BSC Model UN team represented the Republic of Namibia, a sub-Saharan country which achieved its independence in 1990 and which sits astride the Atlantic Ocean, adjacent to Angola, Zambia, Botswana and South Africa. Representing the BSC Model UN team this year were Dennis Whitlow, Permanent Representative and member of the General Assembly Third Committee and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; Amy Pritt, member of the General Assembly Second Committee and the General Assembly Third Committee; Devante Webb, member of the General Assembly First Committee and the General Assembly Fourth Committee; Samuel Dannah, Jr., member of the General Assembly First Committee and member of the General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent); and James Irvin, member of the General Assembly Fourth Committee and the General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent).

An intense debate ensued in the General Assembly Plenary over the issue of consolidating gains and accelerating efforts to control and eliminate malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa by 2015. A resolution written and proposed by BSC's delegate representing Namibia, Samuel Dannah, Jr., served as a vehicle for a subsequent modified resolution which eventually received majority support and was passed. As well, Mr. Dannah was responsible for the successful passing of another resolution in committee. Likewise, three resolutions supported by BSC delegate James Irvin, representing the country of Namibia, were passed successfully in the General Assembly Fourth Committee, each dealing with the peaceful uses of outer space. These five successful resolutions went on for consideration before the final Plenary committee with three of them passing—one from Mr. Dannah and two from Mr. Irvin. Given that the Plenary final committee only passed five total resolutions, it is notable that three of them were either sponsored or co-sponsored by BSC delegates Samuel Dannah, Jr. or James Irvin.

With over 1,450 participants from over 97 colleges and universities fielding teams in this year's Conference, Professor Brian Endless of Loyola University of Chicago, who started the AMUN Conferences 24 years ago, said that this was the biggest turnout since the recession of 2008-2009.

Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers served as the venue for the Conference, and the weather was especially cold this year in the windy city, though with only a little snow on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. A number of graduate school and law school recruiters were present, as usual, to entice delegates into their programs.

For additional information, contact BSC Model UN Director Colin S. Cavell, Ph.D. at [ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu](mailto:ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu) or 304-327-4034.

Photos are attached for general public distribution and dissemination.