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Model United Nations Program Focuses on the Environment

Winthrop University

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Model United Nations Program Focuses on the Environment

Quick Facts

- Winthrop will host the 31st annual Model United Nations March 28-30.
- The conference's theme will be "Sustaining the Environment in an Ever-Changing World."

ROCK HILL, S.C. - About 30 high schools from the Carolinas will visit the Winthrop University campus March 28-30 for the **31st annual Model United Nations**. The topics presented through the conference's debates and speakers will focus on this year's theme, "**Sustaining the Environment in an Ever-Changing World.**"

Sharon Spray, an assistant professor of political science and environmental studies at Elon University, will give the keynote address during the opening session at 7 p.m. March 28 in **Tillman Auditorium**. **Spray** teaches courses in American politics, international environmental policy, and domestic environmental politics and law. She has worked with the Greenhouse Network speaking about climate change issues for many years, in addition to working on issues of sustainable development and the environment as a world security issue.

Several Winthrop faculty members – Haney Howell of mass communication, Christopher Storie of geography and Peter Phillips of biology – also will speak during the conference. Committee meetings are held on March 29, while plenary meetings and the awards ceremony are scheduled for March 30.

The **Winthrop Model UN** combines the participation of college students and high school students. The college students, who have taken Political Science 260 to learn about the workings of the United Nations, act as chairs for the high school delegations. After participating in the class, select Winthrop students remain active in **Model United Nations** by becoming Secretariat members, who plan and run the following year's conference.

This year's conference is led by student coordinators Summer Hanna and Daniel Leimer and secretary general Taryn Welden.

Begun in the spring of 1977, **Winthrop's Model United Nations** program has been a consistent presence on the campus each March. To learn more, contact Chris Van Aller, faculty advisor and associate professor of political science, at 803/323-4667.

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