



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing®

UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

The annual Orientation Program is held to inform new representatives from the Department of Public Information and Non-Governmental Organizations to understand their role within the United Nations. The Orientation Program also is a way to introduce the work of the United Nations, problems that are currently being focused on, and how best the youth representatives can be involved to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of 2030.

The orientation was held 11 April, 2017, at the United Nations headquarters in New York, NY, United States.

Report submitted by Marnie Colborne, STTI United Nations Youth Representative

How can we get students more involved with the United Nations?

Bruce Knotts, Director of the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office: Encourage attendance at the United Nations annual conferences and encourage more participation with the young and seniors as co-chairs to best reflect the demographics of world. The conference this year is focusing on climate change, refugee and migration issues, and poverty.

Corann Okorodudu, Full Professor of Psychology & Africana Studies at Rowan University: Read up on the literature and work with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Go to [United Nations Office of Human Rights](#) and access conventions, because they are the body of human rights law. This way you can follow what the United Nations has done regarding different topics (e.g., racism, discrimination against women). Keep an eye on international law and what the United Nations has done working with governments so that you are in a better place to take a position on issues to empower yourself. One must also focus on his or her passion.

How can NGO representatives best leverage UN resources?

Amanda Goodson, part of AIESEC (*Association internationale des étudiants en sciences économiques et commerciales*): Work through university and local governments and create resolutions through these avenues. Go through structures that are already in place. Connect with your local senators and representatives.

Bruce Knotts: Be involved with Department of Public Information; they ensure that the youth are engaged. Create a statement, advocate for equal representation of youth, and network as much as you can. Be open, be flexible and ready to make change!

Telling the UN Story – Communication: Tour guides allow an opportunity for the public to ask questions. Also, one can have guided tours that speak to people on certain areas, or you can have a United Nations speaker come to you. United Nations is also active on social media and can be accessed through www.un.org/social . All posts are written stand-alone so that those who have zero background with the United Nations will be able to understand. Social media is also essential to counter misinformation and show the lighter side of the United Nations.