



WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

of Philadelphia

Mock ICJ Simulation Program

Role Descriptions and Student Allotment

1) Attorney, 2) Judge, 3) Witness, 4) Journalist

*Note: Each simulation program the Council’s Education Department offers has a “leadership” role-play position. Although every position in the simulation is essential to the overall success of the program, it is ***the leadership role that carries with it the greatest academic and skill-related responsibilities***. Each leadership role requires a try-out interview. **FOR THE MOCK ICJ, THE LEADERSHIP ROLE-PLAY POSITIONS ARE THE ATTORNEYS.**

Teachers are to present this role-play option to their students with the performance criteria stated above. Not only must the student be interviewed here at the Council on January 17 or 18, but he/she must make a commitment to work with the legal team they are assigned. Attorneys must be available to attend the three preparatory sessions (see first page for date/time).

Attorneys*: There are 8 attorneys – two legal teams of 4 attorneys each.

Students must tryout by being interviewed by a Council staff member on January 17 or 18 between the hours of 3:30 and 5 pm. Note: Teachers are to notify the Council’s Education Department with the name, date and expected arrival time of any student coming in for an interview.

“The Interview”: Individual’s academic background with emphasis on public speaking experiences and knowledge of general court room procedure; open-ended questions on international law. ***Students who have a strong interest in pursuing a legal career should be encouraged to tryout. Interviews are open to students in grades 10 – 12.***

Attorneys (legal teams) will develop a strategy, work with witnesses in preparing the final draft of their testimony and present their country’s case before the Mock ICJ.

Comprehensive and developmental preparation will be given at each of the preparatory sessions.

Judges: There are 15 judges on the ICJ and a Registrar.

Note: The President Judge (presiding) and Registrar roles are reserved for members of the Student Steering and Advisory Committee. Selection of students for these roles will be conducted at the January SSAC meeting.

Each judge may have an aide to assist in the research and development of questions.

Note: Most, but not all, participating schools will get a judge position. Assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

Judges will hear the testimony of all witnesses and may ask questions. At the end of testimony, judges will convene a private meeting to discuss and draw up a rendering of the Court's decision on the case.

Judges will be issued a robe and a jabot to be worn during the simulation.

Witnesses: There are 18 witness roles: nine witnesses supporting one country's position and nine witnesses supporting the other country's position.

Each school will be assigned one witness role. Note: Two students can play the one role.

Note: In the event that less than 18 schools register for Mock ICJ, additional witness roles may be available for participating schools (Teachers can indicate on the registration form their interest in an additional witness role).

Students assigned a witness role will research and develop an appropriate testimony. During the last preparatory session (attorneys and witnesses), each witness' testimony will be reviewed by the attorney team and suggestions made to the witness to strengthen the testimony.

Witnesses must be prepared to answer questions from the judges on the information they give in their testimony. Having background and statistical information is an important part of playing a witness role, especially for answering impromptu questions from the judges.

Journalist: Participating schools may have one journalist.

The student may write for his/her school newspaper or as a class/club activity writing assignment.

Note: Teacher's are to have a copy of the 'publication' sent to the Council's Education Department within a week after the simulation.