Press Corps Committee: At the Conference!

When you arrive to New York in February or March, the Press Corps committee functions a little differently than the other committees offered by MMUN. In particular, the first major difference is that this committee does not use any formal Rules and Procedure. This means there are no points or motions during the committee session. Although reporters will receive placards, and may raise them in case there is an inquiry, they will not be used for motions.

At the start of Day 1 Committee Session, after a brief introduction, the committee will receive instructions from the Bureau. This briefing will include instructions about the fundamentals of reporting. Specifically, it will cover how to report at MMUN, concepts such as journalistic integrity, how to conduct interviews, and ways to take diligent and efficient notes.
After the briefing from the bureau, reporters should recall that they prepared for two articles; one on Day 1 and one for Day 2. On each day, reporters are tasked with writing an article proposal, which outlines the specific aspect of a topic that an individual wants to report on. It’s important to garner a thesis statement that will allow for a more nuanced article, but also leaves enough research to be done when the reporting begins. The bureau will provide an example and walk the committee through how to make a proposal on the first day.

At this point, reporters will go to the committee room that is covering their Day 1 topic. For the first reporting session, reporters are asked to only take notes and refrain from interviews. Typically at this point of the day, delegates in different committees are finishing their speeches, then going into their regional blocs afterwards. It’s imperative for reporters to respect the committees in which they report in, and always defer to the respective bureaus who are the final authority. The Press Corps Bureau will be monitoring all committee rooms as well, ensuring that if reporters have any questions or concerns, a Press Corps expert will be there to assist.

When it is time to return to the Press Corps room, individuals will organize their notes, share their findings, and ask any questions about article development. Besides this break, the rest of the day will involve reporters going back to their committees to report. After the first break, reporters will then be permitted to interview delegates if they wish. Although the bureau will give a thorough briefing on how to conduct briefings, a point of note is the importance of copying quotes accurately to ensure maximum journalistic integrity.

Finally, the remaining committee session is spent on writing. Reporters will be writing two articles, which do not have any word limit or requirement (although the average word count is approximately 600-800 words in previous years). The articles will be reviewed by a member of the bureau, who will also be available to assist at every stage of the writing process.

If there are any questions, please feel free to email the committee's Chair, Christian Suglia at suglcj16@wfu.edu