



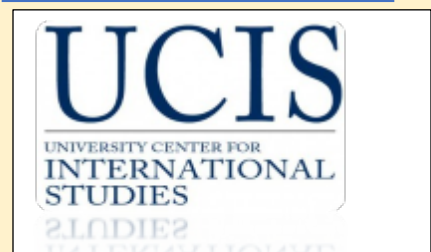
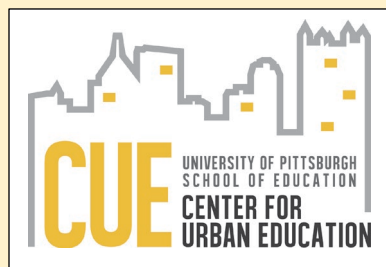
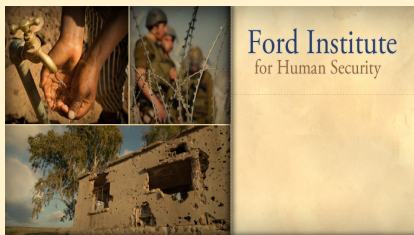
**6th Annual Model African Union
Conference
Pittsburgh High Schools**



**Thursday, March 23, 2017
O'Hara Student Center
4024 O'Hara Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15260**



**African Students
Organization**



Schedule:

Morning

- 8:00 – 8:30 am: Registration/Check-In/Breakfast
- 8:30 – 8:35 am: Opening Remarks from Macrina C. Lelei, Acting Director, African Studies Program
- 8:35-8:40 am: Introductory Remarks from Louis A. Picard, Director Elect, African Studies Program
- 8:40 – 8:50 am: Welcome Remarks from Ariel Armony, Director, University Center for International Studies & Senior Director for International Programs
- 8:50 – 9:00 am: Rules of Procedure by Anna-Maria Karnes, Outreach Coordinator, African Studies Program
- 9:00 – 12:00 pm: Committee Session 1
- 10:15 am: Teachers' Meeting, O'Hara Ground floor Lobby

Midday

- 12:00-1:00 pm: LUNCH
- 12:20 – 12:50 pm: Cultural Performance, and Music and Dance Workshop by Ya'Baso Dance Team – University of Pittsburgh.
- 12:50-1:00 pm: Short Break and Move to Committee Rooms

Afternoon

- 1:00 – 2:45 pm: Committee Session 2 (The committees will return to their respective venues to complete the activities of the day.)
- 2:45-3:00 pm: Closing by moderators
- 3:00 pm: Departure

Meeting Rooms

Committee 1: O'Hara Ballroom

Committee 2: O'Hara Dining Room

Committee 3: University Club, Conference A

About the Model African Union (MAU) at Pitt:

The MAU was launched in 2012 by the Pitt African Studies Program of the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) to serve as an educational simulation that provides opportunities for high school students to learn about Africa by studying the African Union and its inner workings. Under the guidance of their teachers, students study and research issues facing the AU member states and prepare to hold debate and propose resolutions. Agenda items and countries are assigned to the participating schools early enough for adequate preparations for the conference.

The Agenda Items:

(1) Democracy and Continental Unity: As part of our shared identity, all Member States aspire to good governance through the adoption of democratic values as noted by Agenda 2063. Incumbent presidents who fail to win the appropriate number of votes to stay in office must respect the democratic process and the decision of their people and vacate their office. Implementing a plan of action that ensures free and fair elections is of the utmost importance considering that many member states will hold Presidential elections in 2017. Because there is a strong tie between democracy and development, member states must help each other embrace democratic values in order to fully integrate into the global economy.

The Executive Committee of the African Union calls upon the heads of state of all African Union members to produce a ten-year plan of action promoting democracy, free elections and good governance. The plan should address the steps member states will take when a leader refuses to vacate his seat.

(2) Economic and Social Matters: Africa is one of, if not the, richest continents in terms of natural resources, human capital, and geography. In 2015, Africa remained the second-fastest growing global economy after East Asia. Agriculture employs two-thirds of the continent's working population and contributes 20-60% of every country's gross domestic product (GDP). Overall, forestry products account for 6% of Africa's GDP, with some countries relying on forestry for up to 60% of their GDP. Africa's fishing industry provides income to more than 10 million people and has an annual export value of \$2.7 billion. These resources, essential for Africa's continued economic growth and human development, are at risk of depletion. Our natural resources are interdependent and the destruction of a single tree species could destabilize entire ecosystems spelling economic disaster for many. The United Nations Population Division (UNDP) estimated that in 2015, about 41% of Africa's population was under age 15. As Africa looks to a future where a number of jobs will be in a new sector – the green economy – Member States need to make plans for how they will prepare today's youth for future employment in sustainable industries.

The Executive Committee of the African Union calls upon the heads of state of all African Union members to develop a comprehensive plan for promoting sustainable

ecosystems and climate resilient economies with a special focus on harnessing the creativity, energy and innovation of African youth as the driving force behind the continent's transformation. Specifically, we ask that delegates develop plans that will develop green economies, promote youth employment, and protect natural resources.

Participating Schools

Schools	Teachers/Advisors
Avonworth High School	Tara Wahl & Molly Long
Baldwin High School	Jared Hoffman
Brashear High School	Irene Chepngetich & Katie Daley
Brentwood High School	Maureen Anderson
Fox Chapel High School	L. Cowles, M. Modlin & L. Gibson
Hampton High School	Eric Harbison
Moon Area High School	Tracey Spinelli & Steve Palumbo
North Allegheny Intermediate High	Janet Serdy
North Allegheny Senior High	Cris Ruffolo
Norwin High School	Larissa Sturm
Oakland Catholic High School	Maura Doyle
Quaker Valley High School	Susan McCauley & Jenn Matthews
Riverview High School	Ken Kubistek & Neil English
Seneca Valley High School	Deborah McDermott
Shaler Area High School	Kathleen Elder
West Allegheny High School	Michael Quinn & Michael Shaffer

A vote of Thanks

Much thanks to the participating schools for allowing their students to participate in the MAU conference. Thank you to all the teachers and advisors for their role in guiding and encouraging students to take this journey of learning and exploration. Congratulations on your important work and thanks for your commitment to promoting international education in your schools.

Thank you to all the team members that worked tirelessly to ensure this event happened: our volunteers, student interns, moderators and the ASP Star Team.

Thank you to all our sponsors for your support in making this event a great success.

Asante sana!



The African Studies Program (ASP) at the University of Pittsburgh promotes the interdisciplinary study of Africa through teaching, research and outreach to the schools and the wider Pittsburgh community to enhance greater understanding and appreciation of the African continent and its people.