



The Milan International Model United Nations 2006

Final Report

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Questionnaire Feedback

I shall hereby provide the reader with the general information retrieved from the screening of the questionnaires.

The strong point of our event is that all members were satisfied, the lowest grade the participants gave MILMUN on the whole was a 3, which is satisfactory out of the scale which reaches its best at a mark of 5.

The participants applauded above all the location of the event; Palazzo Clerici was much loved by everyone. The second best thing to which the participants dedicated their comments was the work of the journalists and the general communication formula adopted at the event, i.e.: the MILMUN CHRONICLE. The latter was sprinkled with positive comments and was given the highest of satisfaction marks.

On an equal scale were the compliments for the chairpersons. Delegates and journalists both commented on the competency of the chairs. However, some laments were received from the HRC, but details pointed out by participants were personal and not of great importance, it needs to be mentioned that there were complaints, two exactly against the HRC chairwoman, commenting on her lack of ability to control debate; I have my sincere doubts regarding the fact.

One of the strongest points of this conference marked by every questionnaire was the inspiring presence of Dr. Kishore Madhyan, this point was constantly echoing through all the questionnaires.

The international spirit of the conference was underlined by all, the MILMUN was recognized by everybody to be an international conference, which is a positive point and should make the management team happy as that was one of the goals to have an actual, original, international conference.

However, some commented that it was too Italian, not-Italian members of the UNDP from Canada and India noted that a large presence of Italians in conference led to a change in “official language” English to Italian and that it was impossible for the Chairpersons to control such a scenario, the suggestion to eliminate this problem is simply stronger language controls and checks by chairs and this surely needs to be implemented as there is a tendency in an Italian group to switch to national language and forget the presence of foreigners. Not only Italians any National grouping has this characteristic.

Regarding accommodation, there were only positive comments, no one seemed to have problems regarding accommodation, on a personal note, this needs to be arranged more professionally as a member of the executive committee was saddled with the responsibility to accommodate 2 people on the Friday night

The major problem with the event was that nearly everybody commented that it was too expensive and that although evenings were full of activities (some stated that a free evening or two would be more comfortable than having something everyday) some of them could not participate due to the cost. Generally speaking events were given very high marks, but everybody commented that they were too expensive.

A technical problem that all pointed out was the internet connection, this was really poor at ispi and needs to be improved at next year's conference venue. Photocopiers worked fine but

the staff assistance to every committee, the idea of one secretary per committee was hopeless in one or two cases, because secretaries were not aware of what their task was and the briefing was poorly provided and the organisation was lacking in more than one occasion. This needs more work, the provision of efficient secretaries in each and every committee would really smooth the work of the committees, it did not cause any complications this year cause all chairs were competent and knew how to handle all types of technical problems, but in case you do not have an experienced team, small things like photocopies might also become a problem.

Another point which was mentioned in nearly every single feedback form was that the peacekeeping conference was and here I quote “unbearable”, too late in the day and the acoustics of the room were just impossibly bad.

A further point which was criticized to some extent was the quality of food provided, it was not to the liking of half the people present, strangely screening the complaints I noted that most complaints came from the male sex, while the compliments regarding food were mainly from the female sex. Just a point to note: The idea of finger food and aperitivi is an Italian one and half the participants appreciated it the other half called for something more substantial.

Having done a brief survey after the final night, everybody generally stated that the gala was a great evening as it turned out moving from the first venue to Cavalli caffe’ which was organised spontaneously under the logistic head Victor and my guidance. Now that it is a success, it must be pointed out that improvisation can occur only when 100% sure of every single movement and is not advisable, calling taxis for 80 individuals can be a logistic challenge.

Overall the event can be classified as a success after reading all the questionnaires, there is a lot of area to improve, as stated above and there is a full year to do so, I hope all working on next year’s project will concentrate on the fallacies of the 2006 management and improve further on what has been done and allow the MILMUN to grow on.

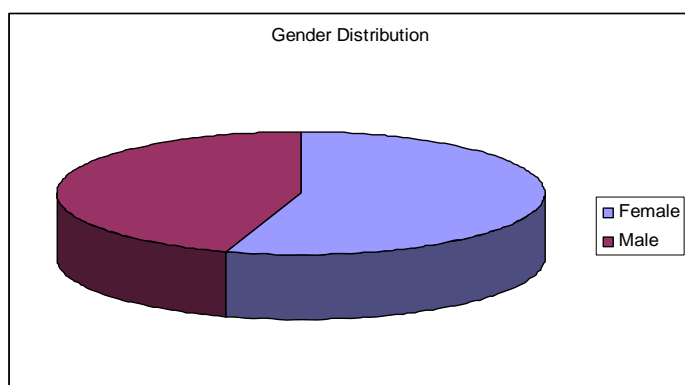
Rudra Chakraborty
Co-Secretary General.

MILMUN 2006 STATISTICS

Many people have a slight and general distaste for statistics and statistical analysis are often declared as numbers without any deeper meaning. At Bocconi our introduction to statistics consisted of “there are lies, big lies and then there is statistics.” So my attempt here will be to give statistics a higher platform than my professor did in his first lesson. I hope to underline with the following statistics that the MILMUN has overall been an event with a lot of positive outcomes; I hereby present you the evidence and request your attention.

Hopefully these statistics will pave the way forward for a better MUN, our performance can be judged very much from these statistics, they will answer questions regarding the wide participation range, nationalities, universities, gender but they unfortunately will never be able to tell us the most interesting of stats- how many hours of work it took the organizing committee to actually mould the event, the number of emails that were sent or even more abstract questions like how the MILMUN contributes to the real UN or to the university.

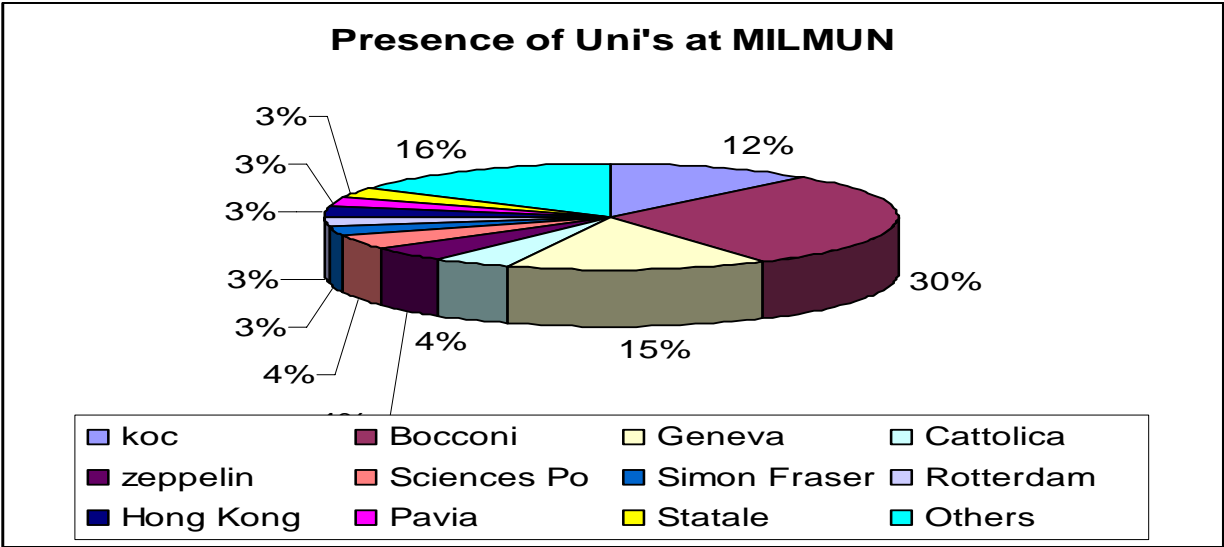
This year’s MILMUN hosted 68 participants (delegates and journalists) of 23 nations. The event staff was the most international group with 22 members from 9 nations, with 8 members constituting the executive committee, 8 chairpersons and one Chief Editor and a photographer, other elements were part of the secretarial staff. Thus, the total number of participants and affiliates stands at 90.



Amazingly the MILMUN was pretty equally balanced with 55% of the participants being women and the other 45% being men among participants. If we look at only the delegates and journalists, in other words the paying participants, then the division is perfect 50% each way. Among participants of certain branches the proportion of women was spectacularly high; above all in the UNDP and the UNHRC. Amongst staff the women were slightly strongly represented than men (60% women against 40% men). Although this was nothing but a coincidence since MILMUN cares about equal representation of both genders on all levels. This principle is also applied for the recruitment of the delegations in the different committees. The general guideline is always set to have more or less half male and half female delegates in each committee. Given some logistical problems, like for instance last minute dropouts, this aim is not always reachable. Analyzing the applicant’s fields of interests there seems to be some clear gender preferences for some subject matters. The HRC and the UNDP attract a majority of females; the opposite is true for the SC and the WTO. The effective gender distribution respective to the different committees was as follows.

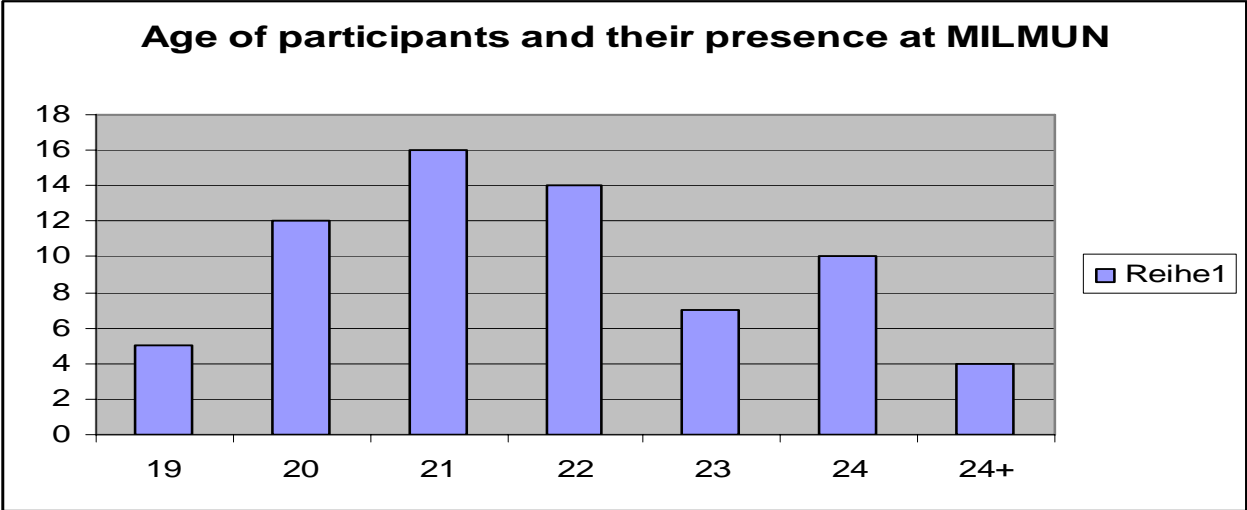
	Male Participants	Female Participants
Security Council	67%	33%
Human Rights Council	31%	69%
World Trade Organization	64%	36%
United Nations Development Programme	39%	61%

24 universities were present at the event (find list in annex 1), a good 30% of the participants were from Bocconi. The staff consisted of 13 Bocconi students, 6 students from HEI, Geneva and one each from Bern and Groningen. Since MILMUN does not accept applications for entire delegations of different universities the majority of participants either come individually or in little groups. Participants were all undergraduates besides two exceptional last minute recruits, at which point the criteria of being an undergrad was scrapped. The universities with the largest delegations were mainly Geneva with 10 presences, Koc, Turkey, sent an 8 man delegation. Sciences PO, Cattolica and Zeppelin University followed with three presences and a lot of universities provided the event with two students each, namely Simon Fraser, Statale, Rotterdam, Hong Kong and Pavia. It must be stated here as a statistical note that it was observed during the event that most MILMUN participants have accomplished at least one year at university.



Participants are by the majority students in economics, political science, law and international relations, however one case of medicine studies and a case of literature studies exist and surely there are a few more different backgrounds that were present at the event, those mentioned come freshly to the mind as exceptions. Staff members were mainly economics students due to the large Bocconi presence, however the expertise and knowledge in workshops was completely outsourced to students from the HEI in Geneva studying International Relations, only one element of the team of Chairs was from Bocconi.

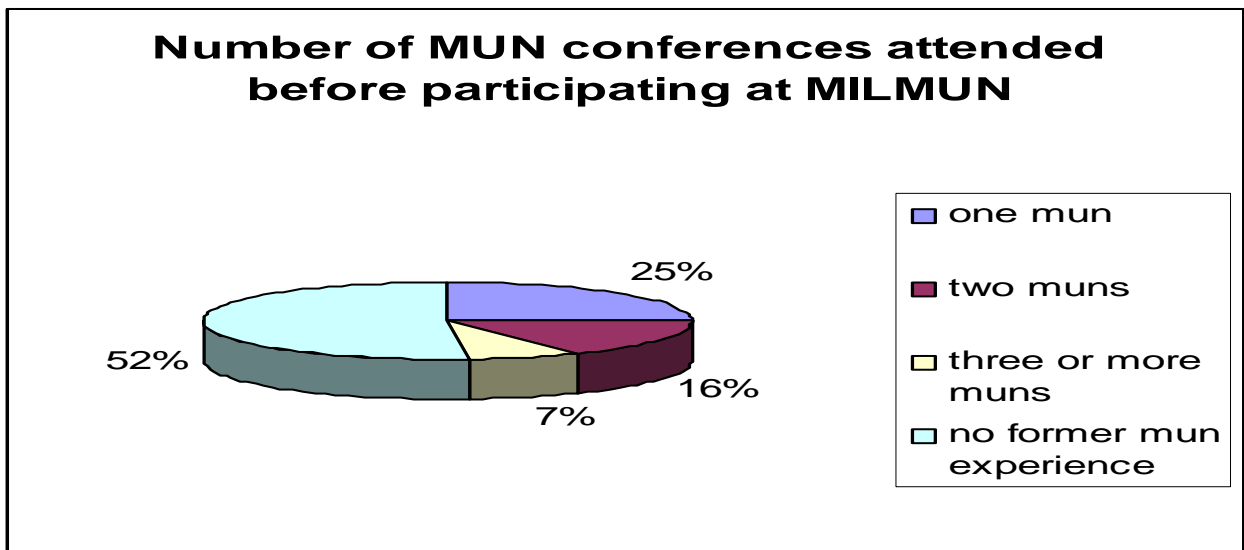
Having a closer look at the age of the delegates one can say that the average participant was born in 1985, the large majority is aged between 20 and 22.



But at the same time there are some very young participants and some older people who are already at their second undergrad or at the end of their university undergrad courses.

Most participants reside in Europe, 73%, although only 52% were nationals of European countries. Staff members were all residents in Europe and 67% were nationals of European countries.

Considering the participants, the large majority are at their first MUN, which is fine considering that it was a first time event in Milan, it was expected that the large majority would be first timers, however following the screening of the questionnaires it can be said that there were at least 17 individuals participating at their second MUN, 11 individuals at their third mun, followed by another 5 people who had done more than three muns.



At this point I shall conclude the statistical analysis of this event, I hereby hope that the reader will be able to understand what this event was from a statistical point of view, if the international quality is to be applauded for in a Mun, it can be humbly stated that as a first time event, the MILMUN staff can join in the clapping and be content with what it has reached but not satisfied as a lot more can be done to improve this event.

Thank you for your attention. Looking forward to the 2007 edition.

“Muners of the world unite in Milan”

Rudra Chakraborty.
CO-SG MILMUN,2006

Report MILMUN 2006

Philipp Gallhöfer – 3rd year Student of Business Administration course (CLEA) at Bocconi.

1. Tasks and position for MILMUN: I was Co-Secretary General, responsible for WTO and UNDP committees, overlooking and organising together with my Co-SG the whole organization and conference.

2. Achievements

I started working on the MILMUN project from the beginning in spring 2005. After the first two months though, I went abroad and couldn't help much. I therefore joined the team again at the end of January. Our two Secretary General policy at MILMUN allowed Rudra and me to split the workload between us. I was primarily responsible for all the logistical, financial, events and lately registration overview. Further talks with Bocconi and ISPI representatives were part of my duties.

I'm generally satisfied with the outcomes, the planning and execution could have been better, more to that later. As the best achievement I take the many smiles throughout the week. For me that was the biggest achievement of our team.

3. General feeling:

Very good event! That was also the feedback I got from participants and staff. Problems and mistakes should be solvable for next year.

Team: No real team-spirit or -building until 2 weeks before the event. More individual actions required by everyone, not leave everything to the Co-SG. As a self-criticism on the other hand better delegation of tasks by the Co-SG would have helped. Team members should also put their individual egos and goals behind the team goals. This wasn't always the case. Therefore as a summary: More structured approach without losing the Italian improvising qualities!

4. Suggestions/improvements

I have saved up some space, because I consider this section the key for the future of MILMUN. I want to divide my analysis and proposals into three parts: organizational structure, relationship with Bocconi/ISPI and general.

First organizational structure: Due to the experience this year, I think it is necessary to structure future MILMUN teams better. Clearer competence division and better knowledge are from my point of view the key things. Here my proposed structure:

1. Secretary General (1-2 people): managing and coordinating the content and conferences (chairs recruitment, topics, rules of procedure, guest speakers, etc.) – needs to have good MUN experience, organizational skills, serious figure
2. Team manager: managing and coordinating the team + organization of the event – needs good organizational and leadership skills
3. Logistics: Locations, Accommodation, Visa – needs to be in Milan
4. PR: Promotion, Marketing, Poster, Emails, Press, (Website) – proficiency in English and Italian is a must
5. Finance: fundraising (should start now!), registration fee, payments - needs to be very trustable, organized and serious
6. (Events): (could go together with Logistics) all Evening program of the week – needs to be in Milan
7. Registration: only registration - needs to be very organized, able to work with excel and work a lot before the actual start of the conference!
8. Webmaster: Website – needs to be professional and updated, communication with webmaster needs to improve. Otherwise worked very well.

9. Chairs: need to have a lot of MUN experience, they are the key to success!

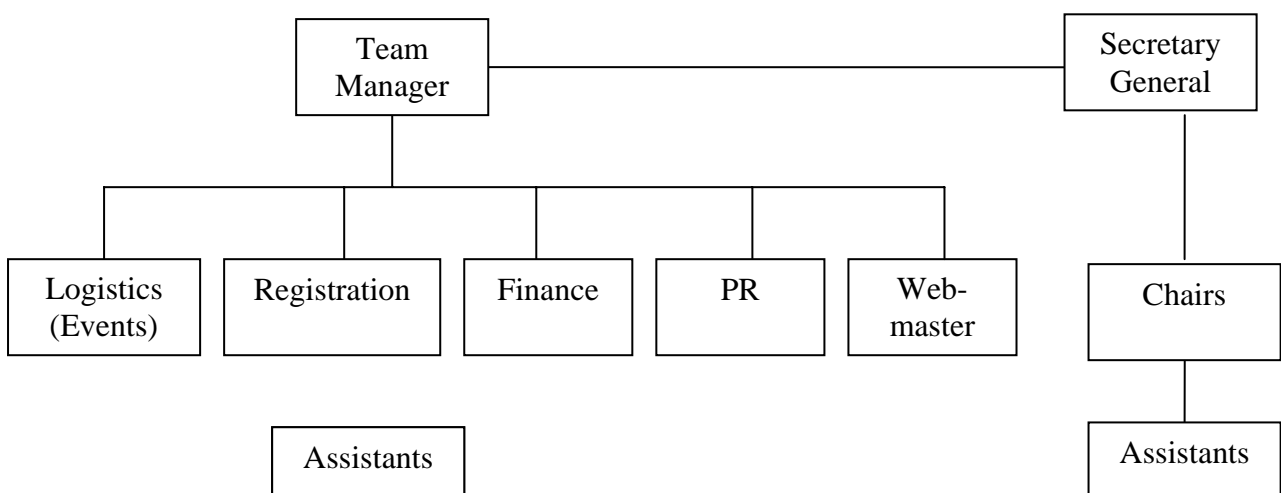
Relationship with Bocconi: 2 Points – location and control

- a) Location: The location is key. Palazzo Clerici is the perfect place for such a conference, because it has all capabilities and capacities, centrally located, and above all it has a “MILMUN-family” atmosphere, which Bocconi can’t just because of its size. I would therefore not do the conference in Bocconi!
- b) Control: MILMUN is a student idea, is student organized and performed. From my point of view it is essential that it stays this way. Bocconi should control and support, but not start mingling and managing, otherwise the event character changes. Bocconi should leave space and freedom to organizers, but also have a say in the team building process.

General:

- Team members need to meet monthly
- report to the team manager on a constant basis, deadlines and tasks should be set
- show own initiative, not be pushed all the time
- be competent in their respective field
- The team building process should be transparent and based on merit, not friendship!
- Bocconi should assist in the team building
- Less Bocconi Marketing during the conference, most participants felt this was out of place

Here a possible structure:



Report about Milan International Model United Nations 2006

Mirko Montuori – Student of Political Sciences and International Relations at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – Milano; graduating in September 2006.

Official tasks at Milmun: **Head of staff, Responsible for logistics and Danish delegate at Security Council**

I worked on Milmun project since the beginning (march 2005), and I am willing to continue this experience having an important role in the organization of 2007 edition.

My tasks at Milmun were **Coordinating the works in Milan** (I was the only member of the staff always on the place), **Relating with Bocconi and ISPI** (I had several meetings with the responsible the mentioned institutions), **Fundraising** (I got 4.000 euros from Comune di Milano), **Logistics** (I looked for the cheapest hotels and hostels and put their addresses and links on our website and I provided free accommodation for 4 delegates), **Webmaster help** (Rosario is a good friend of mine, who helped us for free; Rudra and me often updated him with new stuff to upload), **Printing and sending Milmun presentations to Associations and Institutions** (Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs answered me and congratulated with us, saying that unfortunately their budget did not allow to give us an economic support), **Preparing posters and letters for promotion** at Bocconi to be sent to partner universities, **Grabbing all the material from Bocconi and ISPI** with Helene and **Preparing bags and folders for participants, Sending letters for Visa requests** to all foreign delegates who asked for them. **I called personally all the extra-European delegates** to assure that they were getting their Visa and coming to Milan; **I wrote an article for Bocconi student magazine “Tra i leoni”**, advertising Milmun.

During the conference, I took the floor to **explain** all participants **the week plan** and then many of them referred to me during the week for help.

Finally, I took the place of one missing delegate and represented **Denmark at Security Council**; **I was a guide during the city tour** on Sunday from ISPI to Old Fashion and the move on Monday from Bocconi to ISPI.

I must say I am deeply satisfied about my job in this last year, Milmun happened and participants congratulated with us for the good level of workshops, conferences and events.

I think the most important goals of a MUN were achieved: people of different countries and cultures joined together and discussed at an academic level about hot international issues. The work of chairs was fantastic, all delegates were enthusiastic about them. I suggest to maintain the same team for the next year if possible.

About the ex-com, I think the Secretary Generals made a great job, as well as Victor and Helene, who were absolutely fundamental because they were the only persons with me on the place. The secretaries were helpful (but we need more for next edition), as well as the responsible for registration (but it can't be allowed not to check the emails for some days in the last application period, so this task must be shared).

In my opinion, there were two very negative points: the fact that almost the whole team was not in Milan for most of the time and the absence of a clear distinction of roles (as you can read, I did almost everything is possible to imagine!)

So my suggestion for next edition is starting to work soon with people sharing their tasks clearly and promising to be in Milan till the end (if it is needed).

The opening ceremony was very interesting, the only negative point was the fact that Mr Sironi had to leave the floor and could not interact with participants like Mr Mandhyan brilliantly did.

Maybe a Bocconi tour might be avoided if we will have a nicer and bigger room for the conferences.

The peacekeeping conference in ISPI was quite good, although everybody was tired after such a full week and Ms Zanotti speech was not as interesting as I expected it would be. The acoustics was bad.

I think that the closing ceremony was good, since all the chairs and some members of the staff took the floor to thank everybody and explain the results of their workshops.

The location of ISPI for the activities was perfect for a MUN, I think we should definitely confirm it for next edition.

Night events were very well organized by Victor, everybody enjoyed especially the Italian night (it was great) and the gala night; maybe Volo was not very good, since there were many people not from Milmun; Old Fashion and the workshop dinners were generally good. Maybe we should leave a totally free night to take a rest (actually we had one, but we went clubbing).

I hope you will take in good account my report and I wish to start working soon!

REPORT MILMUN 2006

Karl Victor Henckel von Donnersmarck 3rd year Student of International Economics and Management (DIEM)
Università Luigi Bocconi, Milano, Italia

1. Role in MILMUN

I was the Events Manager and as such responsible for the evening and night events during the conference. Furthermore I helped with logistical issues, mainly in cooperation with the co-Secretary General, Philipp Gallhöfer, and the Logistics Manager, Mirko Montuori.

2. Achievements

I was approached by Philip and the Secretary General, Rudra Chakraborty, in Spring 2005 to organize the events for MILMUN. This was a welcome challenge for me. Together with two fellow students and friends I have been organizing university parties since I started my degree program at Bocconi and therefore felt I had sufficient knowledge and contacts to take on such a job. Additionally I took part in MUN's during my high-school time.

My responsibility was to make sure that each delegate would get a glimpse of Milanese nightlife and the ability to relax after a long conference day. Another main objective was to give delegates the possibility to socialize outside the often rather formal environment of a Model United Nations (MUN).

The main problem I encountered was the sharp cut in my budget one week before the actual conference due to several VISA problems which resulted in a loss of a large number of delegates. As my position comprised the proportionally highest amount of budget, I had to take most of these cuts. This forced me to reshuffle and rescale some of the events on very short notice. But I think that despite these problems my part worked out extremely well. I attribute this to a great deal to my professional contacts in the field, allowing these last minute changes without too much of a cut in quality.

3. General Feeling

My general feeling for this first MILMUN is very positive and I am myself very satisfied. Although the lead up in the year before the event was a bit chaotic and competences between members of the organizational board were often not fully clear, the team really developed an excellent working and group spirit in the weeks before. I was overwhelmed by the positive feedback that I got from all the delegates during and after the conference. I am also convinced that this experience has helped me to further develop my organizational skills and I am very happy to have met so many new and interesting friends.

4. Suggestions/Improvements

Considering this to be the first MILMUN there are of course several things which need and can be improved. Here I want to focus on three main aspects:

- 1) Team organization: many of the competences had to be sorted out as we went along the way and therefore were sometimes not clearly distributed. In the aftermath we have spent considerable time discussing the team structure and the responsibilities of each member. We now have a more formal and clear cut hierarchy which should allow the organisers of MILMUN 2007 to achieve full team potential from the start. I will now quickly describe my post as envisioned in the new structure.

- 2) Event manager: this position will again be centred on the night and social events during the conference. The person should have a good knowledge of and contacts in the Milanese nightlife and their locations. Furthermore he should be responsible for logistics during the night, for example the movement from and to locations as well as the preparation of event specific information material for the delegates. Finally he should be mobile, able to use a scooter as well as a car to be able to quickly move between locations.
- 3) Location of MILMUN: this is probably the most important aspect. In my opinion, ISPI proved to be an optimal choice to hold the conference. The staff was extremely kind and helpful and the “Palazzo” nature of the site gave an imminent sense of Italian flair and exclusiveness. This is especially important in order to properly simulate the UN atmosphere. Furthermore it is placed in the very centre of Milan, with excellent public transport access. The only serious problem identified was the lack of universal and fast Internet access, crucial for such an event. To conclude I strongly suggest next years board to consider ISPI as the location for MILMUN 2007.

REPORT MILMUN 2006

Ofelia Maria Ocampo – 1st year student of Political Science and International Relations
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan

ROLE IN MILMUN

- 1- I started working in the organization of MILMUN as Assistant Recruiter in January, when registration was officially opened. My work as assistant consisted in various tasks: helping the Head of Recruitment, Giulia Gullotti, reading applications, sorting and answering emails, giving my personal opinion on possible candidates and filling in a database with personal information (i.e. phone number, email, course, etc) of all MILMUN candidates and delegates.
- 2- During the MILMUN conference I worked as a staff member. My tasks were quite various, from helping delegates, to making photocopies, bringing coffee, helping Chairs with paperwork, answering questions and generally being at everyone's disposal in case of need.
- 3- On the last day of the conference I substituted Mirko Montuori and represented Denmark in the Security Council.

GENERAL FEELING

My general feeling on MILMUN is extremely positive. I personally think the conference and week were brilliant. The delegates were interesting and had a broad international background and the Chairs were very well prepared. ISPI proved to be a wonderful location, a beautiful building with good facilities in the centre of the city; moreover, the ISPI staff was extremely helpful and courteous (from the interns to the doorman!). Last but not least, the MILMUN social events were very well organized and an enormous success. Everyone had a wonderful time, learnt a lot, met new friends and left with a strong desire to come back.

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

- 1- Registration needs to start as early as possible. This year we were confronted with numerous logistical problems because we started late: we did not receive many applications, which of course hindered our selection process. Even more frustrating was facing many delegates canceling their application one week before the start of the conference because they had not managed to get a VISA. These are basic problems that need to be addressed so that next year registration can work better. I therefore recommend starting registration as early as October/ November. Secondly, registration needs to be more organized from the start: clear deadlines, guidelines and especially the use of a database from the beginning are vital. Lastly, I think only one person should be in charge of registration: two people complicated the process unnecessarily.
- 2- There were many problems regarding staff during the week.
 - First, I would strongly recommend that staff be present at the opening briefing. It is very important that the staff be introduced by the SC to all delegates (this would also be respectful towards the staff). I felt that many delegates throughout the week did not have a clear idea of who I was or what I was doing. This is

unfortunate, as I think I could have been of more help if my position had been clear to all from the start.

- Secondly, we were understaffed: I recommend having at least 5 permanent staff members. I think a secretary should be assigned to each committee, thus aiding the work of the chairs. The extra staff member should help the board. It would also be interesting for the staff to have some sort of task rotation, so that staff gets a chance to sit in on different committees or work in the staff room.
 - There should be a clear Head of Staff. This year I was answering to at least 13 people (board + chairs). This does not help the work of staff. More importantly, what exactly staff has to do needs to be clear from the beginning. No one briefed us on our work or seemed to have an idea of what to have us do.
- 3- I think the next edition of MILMUN should have clear-cut positions for all members of the board and staff. Good delegation of tasks to all members, overviewed and directed by a Team Manager, would help the team to do a better job and curb individual or personal goals, which are harmful to the team as a whole. From the start team building should be encouraged (staff included, if possible). Furthermore, in the months directly preceding the conference, members should meet regularly to discuss progress and to keep up-to-date.

MILMUN

UNHRC Chair Report

C. Andrés Enmanuel O.

I am C. Andrés Enmanuel, I participated as a chair of the UNHRC in MILMUN. I am from Ecuador, and currently study International Economics and Management at Bocconi University. This was my 17th MUN. My involvement in MILMUN started as a consequence of mutual friends among Rudra Chakraborty and myself, namely Helene Mitreva. The Co-Secretary General recruited me in early December 2005 to assume the position of Chair of the Human Rights Council and starting working since.

As far as content related issues, the Human Rights Council was able to reach a viable solution in the topic of Child Labor while it discussed a Human Rights Crisis between the Japan and the Republic of Korea. The resolution passed on the issue of Child Labor was adopted without any votes against. Result that shows the commitment of every delegate in the elaborations of this document. On the other hand, to reach a solution on the Japan-Korea was more challenging. The draft resolution on the floor did not pass, as the delegates from the involved parties mediated the problems by themselves.

All-in-all the result achieved at the conference level was satisfactory. The debate level was fairly good, and the delegates were committed to their work towards the final half of the conference. However it would be adequate to point out that that the prior preparation from the part of some delegates was quite poor. This, however should not be attributed to the fact that the delegates are bad, but as the consequence of late registration and last minute delegates. Nevertheless, my co-chair and I were able to give policy reviews to the participants in order for them to demonstrate a solid country policy.

Passing to more logistic related matters, the inconveniences with registrations were a problem not only for those directly involved like the staff, but for chairs also. During the conference, and due to the heavy interaction, off debate, between the chairs and the delegates the lack of a permanent secretary was felt, especially during the last days. Handling the crisis, moderating debate, consulting delegates and revising draft resolutions could turn out to be overwhelming, therefore the need of secretary, DA's or registrars.

As one the Chairs of one of the most criticized committees in the conference I was, according only to my opinion, very open and perceptive to the comment on the Chronicle. In fact, I pleasantly remarked with the head editor "that is press!". However I have to shed some light on inconsistent articles, not because I could be potentially offended, but because the delegates feel undermined and their motivation decreases dramatically, as the committee experienced. One of the most noticeable consequences of the situation is the focus shift from the part of the delegates, which in turn is detrimental for debate. The solution for this

unpleasant inconvenience would be to recruit journalists who have actual conference experience.

The rooms were well equipped and provided an adequate environment for the development of the conference. The fact that much of the delegates required internet access and the availability of few computers complicated matters mildly.

It feels appropriate to refer to the food, which I believe could be improved. Coffee breaks were delightful, while lunch...not so much. Moreover, since Milano could be complicated and congested city, then it is only fair to prevent possible bottlenecks when delegates have to transport themselves from point A to point B.

Overall and to my humble opinion, I believe that the conference yielded positive results from the point of view of staff and board and from the point of view of delegates. The problems seem to be obvious, and quite resolvable. In any case the goods offset the bads. It is indeed a recognizable effort because it is the first edition. I would consider the outcome of this conference very close to its full potential.

General comments with regards to MILMUN 2006

1. Personal information

Name: Wieteke Daniëls
Age: 24
Nationality: Dutch
Studies: International Relations (equivalent of a Master in Arts) and International and the Law of International Organizations, specialization Human Rights (LL.M.) at the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in The Netherlands
Role at MILMUN: Co-Chair Human Rights Council (HRC)

2. Achievements in the HRC

The HRC had quite a rocky start. Because of the late registration and some people not being able to come, the delegates only had a limited amount of time to prepare themselves in advance. Many of the delegates were not able to meet the deadline for the position papers, which made it difficult for Andrés (Co-Chair HRC) and me to provide the delegates with some feedback. Moreover, most of the delegates did not have any MUN experience and did not seem to understand the concept of a MUN at first. However, with some extra guidance and explanations of the procedure the delegates gradually improved and started to really represent their countries. This was wonderful to see. It is my opinion that all delegates had a good time and that they have learned a lot. Even though they might not have known what a MUN was a few weeks ago, they do now and I hope I will meet them again in the future. The end result of the HRC is a resolution on child labor, condemning the worst forms of child labor. This is a great success, especially considering that the Commission on Human Rights has never passed a resolution on that topic.

3. General feeling about the conference

My general feeling about the conference is really good. As was mentioned before, the beginning was quite difficult, which led to some frustrations on my side, but eventually the whole Council pulled itself together. I loved to see all the delegates grow in their role as representatives. With regards to the whole week I can only speak highly of the event. The guest speakers were all very interesting and inspirational, especially Kishore Mandhyan and Massimo Toschi (guest speaker for the HRC). The social gatherings in the evening were also a lot of fun and really helped all the different people to get to know each other outside the workshops.

4. Suggestions for improvements

- Earlier registration to give delegates more time to prepare and also to give the board more time to find replacements in case some applicants are not able to come anymore.
- Better internet access.
- Continued presence of secretaries, so the chairs do not have to leave the room constantly to print working papers and draft resolutions.

MILMUN REPORT – UNDP Chair: Andreas Lehmann

My name is Andreas Lehmann and I am a second year law student at University of Berne, Switzerland. As a result of my professional contact with MILMUN Co-Secretary General Rudra Chakraborty I was proposed a chairperson's position in the UNDP committee last autumn. When hearing about the MUN project in Milan and the context in which it was to take place I was immediately excited to take part.

The topics that my co-chair Claire Veuthey and me prepared for the UNDP workshop covered a very broad aspect of the UNDP agenda, namely how international trade could be reformed in order to be more beneficial to the developing world. The fact that most of our participants lacked prior experience with United Nations simulations, together with the awareness that the workshop theme required a large amount of preparation from all delegates, initially worried us to some extent. The first two days in session seemed to confirm our feeling in that delegates had difficulties in objectively representing their states' official position while the lack of preparation of a number of them became apparent. The fundamental difference of this committee in comparison to the ones I have previously chaired was the high proportion of MUN-newcomers. It quickly became clear to my co-chair and me that this required a different style of chairing: we needed to become much more active in leading the debate, especially during informal negotiations, and we had to provide close assistance to some of the participants. Adopting this more active role while trying to stay neutral and trying to avoid taking substantial influence on the course of the debate proved a challenging equilibrium, which – as the subsequent outcomes showed – we managed well. All delegates gained self-confidence in public speaking and in representing their positions and they all became more active, namely by starting to draft working papers, decisions and amendments. This led to much more dynamic and productive debates and finally sparked an excellent decision on the topic of trade reforms, which was adopted by near-consensus, followed by another one on tied aid at the end of the week. Personally, I believe that the greatest achievement of the week was the fact that after our initial impulse all delegates started to work well and in a motivated fashion, and that at the end of the week all of them had clearly benefitted and learned a lot.

When it comes to the general context of the conference think that overall it was very well done and I personally enjoyed the week to a large extent. Some of the most positive aspects were the excellent quality of all chairpersons, the location of the conference (Palazzo Clerici), the catering (although somewhat monotonous) as well as the social events. What I also considered as a great idea was the roundtable on peacekeeping which was more than interesting, also due to the excellent quality of the invited speakers. On the other hand, there are – as always – some aspects that could be improved for the next edition of the MILMUN. First of all, I deem it crucial that there be a faster and more reliable internet connection and electronic infrastructure available at the conference location. This is indispensable for a smooth proceeding of the committee sessions. Furthermore, a better management of the recruiting process might help to avoid the last-minute lack of participants in certain committees and to raise the number of well-prepared delegates.

As a final note, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the members of the board and staff for the excellent organisation of this first edition of the MILMUN and I send you my best wishes for a even more succesful MILMUN next year.

1. Who you are, what you study what role you took up in MILMUN.

- Marc Allgöwer, Swiss, 24
- 3rd year in IR in Geneva
- Editor in chief of the Milmun Chronicle

2. What you achieved in different areas of your work, chairs explain what you achieved in your workshops, same for editor, same for board members and your tasks. Are you satisfied with your performance?

a. tasks:

- coordinate the work of four journalists and one photographer
- having a briefing with the team to discuss the subjects of the articles
- checking with the chairs that the newspaper reflects what is happening in their workshop
- proofreading the articles
- editing the newspaper

b. achievements:

- a daily, illustrated, 8-page long newspaper
- reports on each workshop, on the conferences (i.e. guest speakers) and social events
- each journalist got to write about the topic for which he/she is interested
- at the same time, each journalist took turns in every workshop, making sure that everyone knew what was going on

c. satisfaction:

- good quality of the newspaper, both in form and content
- excellent teamwork
- helpful advice from the chairs
- critical and constructive feedback from the delegates
- work would have been more efficient and professional with the help of a vice editor in chief and a faster internet connection

3. What your general feeling is about the conference, you can refer to everything you wish.

- very convenient, impressive and stimulating location
- however, the link between Milmun and Bocconi should be more obvious throughout the week, for it is the host university (moving more often from Bocconi to ISPI is a problem, but there must be a way of adding more "Bocconi spirit" in Milmun)

4. What are your suggestions for improvement?

- make Bocconi's presence more visible to participants from abroad (it has to be more than a pen and an alarm clock)
- hold press conferences when necessary, for it is both a training for journalists and delegates (plus it brings all participants unexpectedly together)
- the editor in chief MUST have a vice (2 chairs = 2 editors)
- faster internet connection (especially important for journalists)