



# The CSIAMUN 2013 Trip: “Priceless!” says Jeff

By WILLIAM SHIA

Accompanied by Mr. Bates and Ms. Yovela, around 20 students from our school flew to Korea for the CSIAMUN. This event was organized by our sister school, Cheong Shim International Academy (CSIA), one of the most prestigious international schools in Korea.

### What is MUN?

Usually organized by high school or college clubs, MUN is also known as Model United Nations or Model UN. MUN is an academic simulation of what really happens at the United Nations. MUN conferences are held all over the world to build bridges between schools, educate the youth on current events, and stimulate leadership and socializing skills, such as research skills and public speaking.



opening speech to establish their stand on the issue, create a list of ideas, and do research to better understand the positions and interests of their countries.

Before the actual debate happens, delegates first mingle and begin drafting ideas. This process is also known as the “lobbying session.”

In each council and committee, delegates were given different agendas. Our topics ranged from the Security Council’s “The Security and Ownership of the Pacific Islands,” to the Economic and Social Council’s “Encouraging Maternal Health.”

The debate was intense. In

The debate was so heated that at one point, people even thought we hated each other. But, of course, we didn’t; the intensity was a great part of the fun and the friendship.

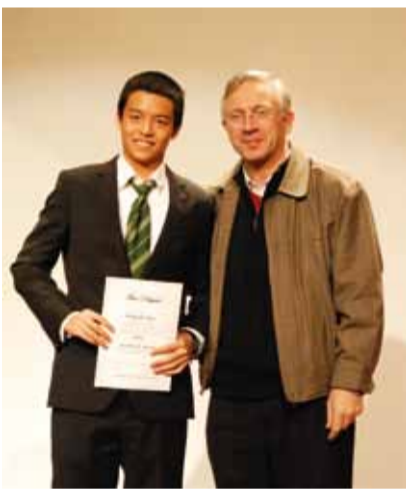
The debate was also intense in the Economic and Social Council and in the General Assembly.

“The Economic and Social Council was very competitive,” said Jeff Tseng, our 9<sup>th</sup> grade winner of the Honorable Mention Delegate Award. “It was essential that I do my best to cooperate with other delegates to make agreeable resolutions. This not only improved my negotiation skills, but my persuasion skills as well.”

After the council sessions, comes the Plenary Session. At the plenary session, the best resolutions from all eight committees get debated on. This final debate takes place between all the 150 delegations from all councils, and not within one only.

The Security Council has something different called a Crisis Session. Instead of debating on researched topics, Crisis is an impromptu simulation that models sudden, unknown attacks that jeopardize the security measures of one region or the whole world.

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William Shia (left) received an Outstanding Delegate award as a member of the Security Council and Jeff Tseng (right) received an Honorable Mention award as a member of the Economic and Social Council.

### The Tour

Our trip to Korea began with a tour of Seoul with our guide, Vicky. We explored landmark sites in Seoul, including Seoul’s ancient Gyeongbuk Palace and the Presidential Building.

Gary Chen (Grade 9) said, “Vicky was a funny woman. Her voice made us laugh, and we had a nice and happy trip.”

Indeed, nobody could agree more: our tour was a lot of fun.

### The Conference

Prior to the conference, delegates have to each draft an

MUN was a whole new experience for many of us, and it was a nerve-wracking one indeed.

“I felt very nervous. This was only the second MUN conference I had ever been to, and I was very worried that I would embarrass myself. Aside from this, I was very excited; it was also my first time going to Korea,” said Chloe Lan, one of our 10<sup>th</sup> grade delegates.

As nervous as the new delegates might have been, they adapted and got used to everything in no time.

the Security Council I was in, I was questioned and attacked many times by both the people from India and the people from Hong Kong. My resolution was on the very brink: with one less vote, it would have failed.

KCIS hosted its own MUN over the weekend of May 24 - 26. The KCMUN (Kang Chiao Model United Nations) banner below was designed by 10th grader Alex Lin.



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Orchestra at the National Finals

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