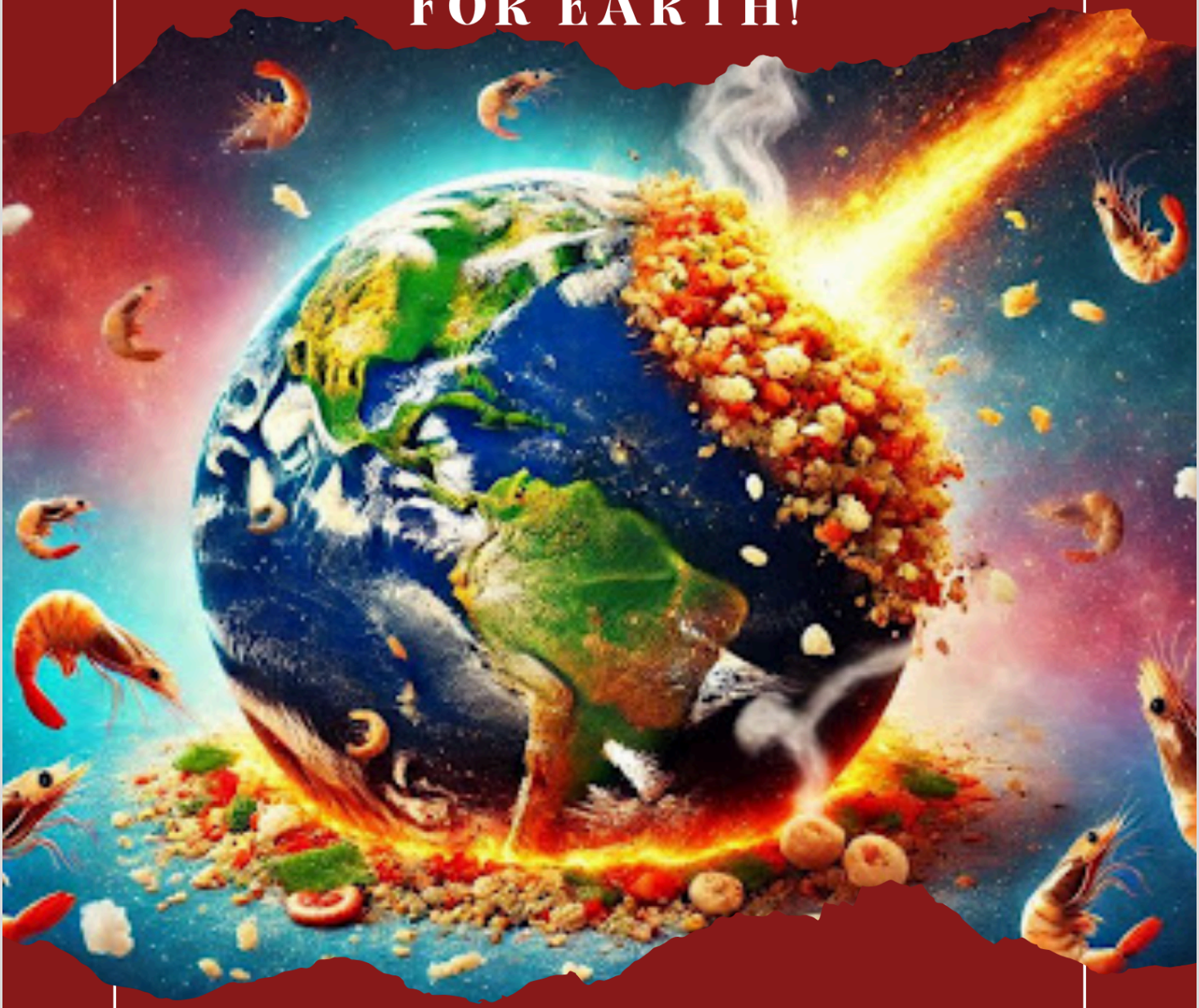
OSUMUN 2025

SCHOOL'S OUT: AN ASTEROID IS COMING FOR EARTH!



SPECIALIZED

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Letters from the Chairs

Dearest Delegates,

I hope this letter finds you as well as it finds me, as I have just been blessed by a full winter's break plus a snow day. Nevertheless, I welcome you to the 2025 Ohio State Model United Nations conference. My name is Danny Zolp, and I am a freshman majoring in Computer Science and Engineering, with a minor in Physics. My background may seem unusual to you, but it is what motivated me to create this unusual committee.

One of my biggest pet peeves that I have experienced throughout my Model United Nations career is a lack of realism. Whether it's the creation of senseless bureaucracy, meaningless resolutions, or a failure to do anything productive at all, I have gained a similar sentiment towards Model UN that many have gained towards our not-so-model governments: incompetence. So, with that in mind, I highly recommend that you focus your research on ideas that are technically feasible with the resources and time that your country has.

With that all said, please feel free to reach out to me at any time with any questions you may have, as this committee is probably far from anything else you've ever experienced in Model UN. I am excited to see what you can prepare and am hopeful that together we can stop this asteroid.

Thank you,

Danny Zolp, Head Chair

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Hello Delegates,

My name is Melody Kwarteng and I'll be your co-chair! I am a junior studying Philosophy, Politics, and Economics with an International Relations minor. This is my first time volunteering with OSUMUN and I'm really excited about our committee and how unique it is! Outside of Model UN you'll find me playing intramural volleyball, hanging with friends, or watching television/movies. I can't wait to hear your creative solutions to handling the asteroid, feel free to contract with any questions at kwarteng.32@osu.edu!

Melody Kwarteng, Co-Chair

Introduction to the Committee and Procedure

The United Nations General Assembly (GA), founded in 1945, is described as the "chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations" (UN). Throughout the last 80 years, many of polices have been passed, paused, and killed in the chambers of the General Assembly. While the GA has acted as the public figurehead of the United Nations, the whole assembly is largely called upon to make decisions, as the wide political spectrum its members inhibit make it incredibly difficult to pass meaningful resolutions.

In this committee, we will largely be using the General Assembly's abilities of crisis management. The structure of this committee will be like the 2024 crisis briefings of the Israeli Palestinian conflict, and the special session held on the issue of COVID-19. We will follow the parliamentary procedure outlined by the United Nations, with debate being controlled by the chair. However, one thing is different about this GA as compared to the actual United Nations, in that resolutions that you agree to, and that pass will be executed to the fullest extent of your nation's ability.

For example, if I present a resolution to inflate 400 bounce houses, and I've got a majority of the votes, the countries that agreed to pass the bounce house resolution will be called on to get the resources, find the manpower, and acquire the land necessary to inflate those bounce houses. So, if the people who agreed to the resolution don't have the ability to implement their plan, the resolution is effectively killed upon closure of voting.

One other thing that may be different to what you are used to is the flow of topics. Debate on Topic A will be required from the beginning of the session. Debate will only move onto Topic B at the chair's discretion, which will likely only happen if the asteroid has not been deflected in time for contact with Earth to be avoided.

Because of the scope of this committee, technology will be allowed during session, except if the chair calls for technology to be put away. We will attempt to use Muncoordinated (muncoordinated.io) to regulate debate, but upon any issues the chair may decide to resort to standard parliamentary procedure.

Topics

Topic A: Preventing the Asteroid from Colliding with Earth

Current projections have found the asteroid classified as a Damocloid—meaning the asteroid is very large, flat, and thin. Damocloids are some of the most difficult asteroids to detect and track due to their incredibly erratic reflections. However, we have been able to estimate its size as to have a diameter of 12 kilometers, with a width of 100 meters. Current estimates find the asteroid to be travelling at 20 km/s, which gives you approximately 6 weeks before collision with Earth. We have estimated the density to be anywhere from 600 to 1000 kg/m^3.

The global superpowers have been hesitant to publicly act on the matter. This has started to cause uprisings amongst populations, as news outlets are covering the situation as it unfolds. Riots and mass hysteria are stretching manpower and resources thin across the globe. Behind closed doors, governments are organizing their resources and manpower to implement your solutions.

You will receive reports of new information that you request and information on how your actions impacted the asteroid during the committee session.

Questions to Consider:

- **What is the best approach to protect Earth from the asteroid?**
- **What resources will you need to complete your approach?**
- **Are there any side effects to your approach that you will need to prepare for?**

Topic B: Protecting the Citizens of Earth from the Asteroid

This is a far more normal topic for you to focus on. At the point when this topic is called upon by the chair, there is little that you can do to protect Earth from being hit by the asteroid. You now need to prepare the citizens of the world (or, at least the part of the world that will be most directly affected) for the blast.

The United Nations generally has more experience in fields like this, as they have successfully completed evacuation efforts in the past through their branch of peacekeepers, but this is going to be too large of a situation for the peacekeepers to handle on their own. Mass organization of resources, soldiers, and transportation will need to be set up in very little time.

Current projections show that the asteroid is set to strike Columbus, Ohio, USA. The collision is expected to have the same amount of energy as if we were to set off 1,000 times our current global nuclear arsenal, creating a creator almost 30 miles in diameter. You will need to come up with a solution to not only protect the individuals immediately affected by the asteroid but protect the global population from the expected impact of winter.

While there is the immediate issue of the people living in Columbus and the surrounding area, everyone around the globe will suffer from this impact. Scientists expect there to be an estimated 9.8 magnitude earthquake originating from Columbus, which will affect the majority of the Western Hemisphere. Even though the asteroid will not be landing in water, it is expected that the Great Lakes will experience tsunamis.

Questions to Consider:

- **How are you going to relocate the individuals within the immediate blast radius of the asteroid?**
- **What are you going to do to protect vital resources from the resulting impact winter?**
- **How are you going to distribute resources to the affected populations?**

Additional Sources

I would recommend getting into contact with your high school physics teachers to get a basic understanding of what will be necessary to stop the asteroid, as well as the amount of destruction to expect on Earth if the asteroid collides with it.

Other Sources:

- https://fas.org/initiative/status-world-nuclear-forces/
- https://www.spacex.com/vehicles/falcon-heavy
- https://www1.grc.nasa.gov
- https://www.purdue.edu/impactearth/
- https://www.planetary.org/articles/asteroid-deflection-techniques-to-save-the-earth