

Dear Delegates,

My name is Grayson Dimick, and I am honored to serve as your Head Chair for Building Zion: Mormon Pioneers and the Founding of Utah. From its lengthy name to its specific rituals, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is often viewed as a mysterious religion, oft-mocked in popular culture. But when the Mormon pioneers arrived in Utah in 1847, they were simply seeking a refuge from persecution and condemnation. As delegates, you will be tasked with building a Mormon society in the middle of the Utah Desert, facing challenges from scheming church officials, angry Native Americans, a meddling Federal Government, and divine visions from God. Whether Utah will ultimately prove to be the Promised Land - or whether the desert will bring death and destruction - is entirely up to you.

Hailing from the small town of Sebastopol, California (not to be confused with Putin's favorite town in Crimea), I am a senior at Berkeley, double majoring in Political Science and History, with a minor in Public Policy. In my spare time, I can be found perfecting my RBF, watching the West Wing, boring others with fun facts about Southeast Asian politics, and drinking chai.

The majority of my time is dedicated to MUN, as I currently serve as the President of UC Berkeley Model United Nations. I have previously served as the team's Head Delegate and have acted as a Crisis Director for three previous UCBMUNs, including last year's Ad Hoc committee. As an experienced crisis delegate, I enjoy committees that feature substantive debate and fast paced, unorthodox situations, and we hope to create such a committee for you.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Austin or me. We look forward to seeing you in March!

Best Regards,

Grayson Dimick  
Head Chair  
gdimick@berkeley.edu

Delegates,

I'm Austin Weinstein, and I'm your crisis director for Building Zion: Mormon Pioneers and the Founding of Utah. This committee will offer delegates unique challenges surrounding one of the most compelling chapters of the development of the American West, Mormon Utah. From plural marriage to the Utah War, this committee will look at the founding of the peculiar land of Utah, along the shores of the Great Salt Lake.

I'm from Issaquah, Washington, a suburb of Seattle and a town obsessed with salmon. I'm a junior, majoring in History and minoring in Public Policy. In pursuit of my dream to become Sam Seaborne, I was a speechwriting intern for Loretta Lynch at the Department of Justice last summer. In addition to MUN, I'm the lead administration reporter at the school newspaper, *The Daily Californian*. In my free time, I can be found watching *The West Wing* or listening to Sufjan Stevens.

This year, I have the honor of serving as one of UCBMUN's Head Delegates. Last year at UCBMUN XX, I was Crisis Director for Marcos' Philippines. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Grayson or me.

Very excited to see what happens!

Sincerely,

Austin Weinstein  
Crisis Director  
aweinstein@berkeley.edu