

My name is Austin Smith and it is my pleasure to be your chair for UCBMUN XXI. I am excited to head one of the most important specialized agencies in the United Nations: the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). This year's committee is one that finds itself on the crossroads of prosperity and poverty. It will push delegates to internalize the issues at hand and come up with innovative, unique, and pragmatic solutions. I come into this committee with high expectations, given the magnitude of these issues, and I encourage delegates to think critically, openly, and rationally about the problems at hand.

As for me, I am a second year majoring in Political Science with a concentration in Comparative Politics and a double minor in History and Public Policy. Born and raised in Southern California, I hail from the warm and sunny city of Huntington Beach. This is my sixth year in MUN and my second year serving as a dias member. Additionally, I am serving my first term as IRC representative of UCBMUN. Outside of MUN, I assist my high school in Speech and Debate activities and coach a boys & girls basketball team in the summer. In my spare time, I religiously follow basketball, baseball, and football (I am a passionate Lakers, Angels, and Chargers fan who yes, knows it is a terrible time to be a fan of these teams), read political and historical books, and watch political documentaries. I enjoy traveling, working out, meeting new people, debating, and learning new things.

I am excited to meet all of you in committee and I look forward to a fun and enjoyable conference. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.