What is a UN Youth Rep?

Lehigh created the world’s first UN Youth Representative Program, matching UN-accredited NGOs with high-achieving undergraduate and graduate students who serve as that NGO’s voice at the United Nations.

Youth Representatives meet with global decision makers, participate in international conferences, and moderate briefings broadcast worldwide on UN TV. Youth Representatives have spoken on the floor of the General Assembly.

Youth Representatives visit the UN once per month, where they attend briefings, conferences and private meetings with UN officials on behalf of their NGO on topics such as sustainability and climate change. Tarumitra Youth Representatives have also spent time working alongside students in India.

What is a UN NGO?

A UN-affiliated NGO is a non-governmental, non-profit civil society organization based on a local, national or international level and officially recognized by the UN. A UN-affiliated NGO has the responsibility of disseminating information to its constituency regarding UN beliefs, practices and activities. In turn, NGOs provide a wealth of expertise that shapes and informs UN decision-making.

Tarumitra

Tarumitra is a student organization created to empower youth and educate community members on sustainable practices to promote a healthy environment for the earth. The organization began after 1988 when students led a movement in support of promoting and protecting the environment.

With more than 300,000 student members, Tarumitra is based in Patna, India. The community supports youth empowerment in order to advocate for sustainability through education and campaign efforts.